

## A Pope For The People

NICOLE WINFIELD  
Associated Press

**VATICAN CITY (AP)** — On his first day as shepherd of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics, Pope Francis picked up his luggage at a Vatican hotel, personally thanked each member of the staff and even paid his own bill. Then, at his first Mass, he delivered a short, unscripted homily — in Italian, not the Latin of his predecessor — holding the cardinals who elected him responsible for keeping the church strong.



Pope Francis celebrates his inaugural Mass with cardinals, inside the Sistine Chapel, at the Vatican, Thursday, March 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/L'Osservatore)

Pope for barely 12 hours, Francis brushed off years of tradition and formality Thursday with a remarkable break in style that sent a clear message that his papacy is poised to reject many of the trappings enjoyed by now-retired Benedict XVI. That was hardly out of character for Francis. For years, as Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the Argentine pastor took the bus to work, kissed the feet of AIDS patients and prayed with former prostitutes, eschewing the luxurious residence that would have been his due as archbishop of Buenos Aires.

Continued on Page 3



Continuing his effort to end political gridlock with Congress, President Barack Obama comes to Capitol Hill to meet with the Senate Republican caucus, in Washington, Thursday, March 14, 2013. From left to right, he is greeted by Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Minority Whip John Cornyn, R-Texas, and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## Obama touts "great conversation" with Republicans

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama said he had a "great conversation" with Republicans on Thursday, his third straight day of rare outreach to the opposition in the face of persistent differences on how to reduce the gaping U.S. deficit. The president's visits to Congress are meant to thaw the frosty relationship between the parties that has left the country wrestling with a blunt \$85 billion in budget cuts from both military and domestic programs. Both parties admit the cuts threaten the U.S. economic recovery. Senators said Thursday's 90-minute meeting also featured exchanges on the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada, tax reform and the regula-

tory burden on businesses. "We'll see where we go from here, but it was a great meeting," said Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, a top Republican. Obama met earlier this week with Republicans from the House of Representatives. The partisan divide has hurt efforts to address a series of fiscal crises, and the latest looms at the end of this month with the possibility of a government shutdown over funding. Meanwhile, both parties have offered budget proposals in an annual ritual that is mostly political posturing, though they are meant to lay out each party's stance on federal spending. Obama is expected to release his own budget plan

the week of April 8. "He was candid and open and direct and he didn't sugar coat it," said Sen. Lamar Alexander, a Republican. "He recognizes that we have some pretty big differences and we ought to keep expectations under control, but he said he believes — and I think all of us believe — this is the way we should be doing business together." Obama also told senators to expect a decision on the Keystone pipeline sometime this year, though he didn't signal whether his administration would approve it, said Sen. John Hoeven. In the House late Wednesday, Budget Committee Republicans approved a 2014 budget plan that cuts spending by \$4.6 tril-

lion over the coming decade with cuts to Medicaid and domestic agencies while balancing the government's books within 10 years. The vote sent the measure to the full House for a vote next week. The House budget plan tries to protect the Defense Department from the deep spending cuts by cutting more deeply into the day-to-day operating budgets of domestic agencies next year. On Thursday, the Senate Budget Committee was expected to approve a Democratic Party-line fiscal blueprint that would trim the budget deficit while protecting safety net programs from Republican-proposed cuts.

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# Senate panel approves reinstatement of assault weapons ban

JENNIFER STEINHAUER

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**WASHINGTON** — The Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday approved a measure to reinstate a ban on assault weapons, the first congressional vote on the issue since the ban expired in 2004.

The vote to approve the measure — now ostensibly headed for the full Senate — went firmly along party lines; the 10 Democrats on the committee voted aye, and the eight Republicans of the committee rejected it. The legislation would also limit the size of ammunition magazines to 10 rounds.

In debating the measure — as well as amendments offered by Sen. John Cornyn of Texas designed to chip away its provisions — the committee laid bare the essence and emotions of the debate over how to prevent gun violence and the meaning of the Second Amendment, a fight that is likely to continue on the Senate floor.

The measure, the fourth and most controversial passed by the committee, is almost certain to fail if brought before the entire Senate and has almost zero chance of even receiving a hearing in the House.

"The road is uphill. I fully un-

derstand that," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., the sponsor of the bill, after its passage in the committee.

"My passion comes from what I've seen on the

week that would make the already illegal practice of buying a gun for someone else who is legally barred from having one — known as a straw purchase — a felony and to increase penal-

ceived a protection order and residents of the Southwest border to be exempt from the ban, all failed 8-10 along party lines.

The debate over who may obtain weapons, what



**Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Al Franken (D-Minn.) during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on a measure to reinstate a ban on assault weapons in Washington, March 14, 2013. The committee approved the measure on Thursday, the first major Congressional vote on the issue since the ban expired in 2004.**

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

streets," she said.

Earlier this week, the panel passed a measure that would expand the use of background checks to private gun sales, and another to renew a grant program to help schools improve security.

The committee also approved a measure last

ties for the crime.

Cornyn offered amendments to the bill to create exemptions from the ban, which would prohibit roughly 160 types of firearms from sale and use.

His amendments, which would have allowed female victims of sexual assault, those who had re-

type and within what limitations goes to the heart of the interpretation of both the Second Amendment and the Supreme Court's most recent findings on its limitations, which it found existed, without outlining what those specific limitations should be. □

## Reuters journalist Keys charged with hacking conspiracy

PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — U.S. federal officials on Thursday charged a social media editor for the Reuters news service with conspiring with the group "Anonymous"

to hack into and alter an online Los Angeles Times news story.

Matthew Keys gave Anonymous members login credentials to the computer network of Tribune Co., which owns the Times, in December 2010,

the FBI said. Keys had been fired from a Tribune-owned television station in Sacramento two months earlier. According to the federal grand jury indictment handed down in Sacramento, a hacker altered a Times news story posted Dec. 14 and 15, 2010, to read "Pressure builds in House to elect CHIPPY 1337."

The indictment alleges that Keys, 26,

and another hacker failed in another attempt to access the Tribune computer system after the Times hack.

Keys acquired the login information while serving as the web producer for the Sacramento-based FOX station KTXL, which is owned by Tribune Co.

The New Jersey native is charged with one count each of conspiracy to transmit information to damage a protected computer, as well transmitting and attempting to transmit that information.

If convicted, Keys faces up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000 for each count.

A spokesman for Thomson Reuters Corp. declined comment.

Keys is scheduled for arraignment in Sacramento federal court April 14.

He didn't respond to email inquiries and messages sent through his Twitter account and Facebook page Thursday. □

## Carnival flying stranded cruise passengers home

JUDY FITZPATRICK

Associated Press

**PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten**

**(AP)** — Passengers from the cruise ship Carnival Dream headed to the airport Thursday instead of sailing home after an on-board generator problem halted their trip in the latest maintenance headache for the world's largest cruise line.

The Dream was in St. Maarten on the final stop of a Caribbean cruise when the crew announced it would not be sailing home to Port Canaveral, Florida, because of a mechanical issue with a diesel generator, passengers said.

Carnival Cruise Lines said the Dream had a "techni-

cal issue" with its backup emergency diesel generator that was discovered during a test Wednesday. A company statement said that the ship did not lose power but that there were periodic interruptions to elevators and restrooms. Carnival said all systems were functioning normally Thursday but the company decided to get the passengers home by air.

Passengers strolling about the Dutch Caribbean town of Philipsburg told The Associated Press that the power and water were out for 10-20 minutes, contradicting media reports of longer outages and unsanitary conditions.

"We have toilets. We have water. It's no different than a regular day at sea," Tasha Larson, 31, from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, said after disembarking with her boyfriend to spend the day in St. Maarten.

An engine fire last month crippled another Carnival ship, the Carnival Triumph, leaving 4,200 people stranded for five days without working toilets or power.

Passengers Mary and Terry Washington of Tampa, Florida, said they were grateful because the malfunction gave them an additional day to spend in St. Maarten.

"The plumbing is fine. The

food is fine. Everything is fine," Mary Washington said. □\*

Another passenger, Tamie Knapper of Hedgesville, West Virginia, said she also preferred another day in St. Maarten to the risk that the ship could encounter problems as sea. "It's better that we are here than in the middle of the ocean," she said.

St. Maarten offered to assist with police escorts for moving passengers to the airport.

"We would not want them to encounter any delay, discomfort or setback," said Deputy Prime Minister William Marlin, who visited the ship Thursday. □



# A pontiff for the people: Pope Francis pays hotel bill

Continued from front

But now he is pope — the first from the New World and the first Jesuit — and his style both personal and liturgical is in a global spotlight.

On his first day, he couldn't have signaled a greater contrast to Benedict, the German academic who was meek and generous in person but formal and traditional in public.

The differences played out Thursday in the Sistine Chapel as the 76-year-old Francis celebrated his first public Mass as pope.

NGO, not the bride of the Lord," he said.

"When we walk without the cross, and when we preach about Christ without the cross, we are not disciples of the Lord. We are mundane. We are bishops, priests, cardinals, popes, but we are not disciples of the Lord."

The new style was evident even in Francis' wardrobe. Rather than wear the new golden pectoral cross he was offered after his election Wednesday, he kept the simple crucifix of his days as bishop. He also turned down the red velvet

message on a society that often doesn't want to hear it.

For this reason, as Cardinal Bergoglio, "he built altars and tents in the squares of Buenos Aires, and held Masses with former prostitutes and homeless people in the street," Rubin said. "He did this to express the closeness of the church to those who are suffering."

Rubin said he expected to see more changes — even substantive ones — once Francis gets his footing.

"I think the categories of progressive and conservative are insufficient,"

Virgin Mary, and his visit to the St. Mary Major basilica was a reflection of that. Laying flowers on the altar, he then prayed before a Byzantine icon of Mary and the infant Jesus.

"He has a great devotion to this icon of Mary, and every time he comes from Argentina he visits this basilica," said the Rev. Elio Montenero, who was present for the pope's arrival. "We were surprised today because he did not announce his visit."

Francis himself had foreshadowed the visit, telling the 100,000 people

stopped by the Vatican-owned residence where he stayed before the conclave to pick up his luggage. But that wasn't the only reason he made the detour.

"He wanted to thank the personnel, people who work in this house," said the Rev. Pawel Rytel-Andrianek, a guest at the residence. "He greeted them one by one, no rush, the whole staff, one by one."

Francis then paid his bill "to set a good example," Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi said.

"People say that he never in these 20 years asked for a (Vatican) car," Rytel-Andrianek said. "Even when he went to the conclave with a priest from his diocese, he just walked out to the main road, picked up a taxi and went to the conclave. So very simple for a future pope."

Francis displayed that same sense of humility immediately after his election, spurning the throne on an elevated platform that was brought out for him to receive the cardinals' pledges of obedience, said Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York.

"He met with us on our own level," Dolan said.

Later, he traveled by bus back to the hotel along with the other cardinals, refusing the special sedan and security detail that he was offered.

Francis, said U.S. Cardinal Donald Wuerl, has signaled his adherence to a "Gospel of simplicity."

Cardinal Thomas Collins, the archbishop of Toronto, agreed. "He's just a very loving, wonderful guy. We just came to appreciate the tremendous gifts he has. He's much beloved in his diocese in Argentina. He has a great pastoral history of serving people," Collins said in a telephone interview. And he has a sense of humor.

During dinner after his election on Wednesday, the cardinals toasted him, Dolan said. "Then he toasted us and said, 'May God forgive you for what you've done.'"



Pope Francis celebrates his inaugural Mass with cardinals, inside the Sistine Chapel, at the Vatican, Thursday, March 14, 2013. (AP Photo/L'Osservatore Romano, ho)

Whereas Benedict read a three-page discourse in Latin, Francis had a far simpler message. Speaking off-the-cuff for 10 minutes in easy Italian, he said all Catholics must "build" the church and "walk" with the faith.

He urged priests to build their churches on solid foundations, warning: "What happens when children build sand castles on the beach? It all comes down."

"If we don't proclaim Jesus, we become a pitiful

cape that Benedict wore when he was presented to the world for the first time in 2005, choosing the simple white cassock of the papacy instead.

"It seems to me what is certain is it's a great change of style, which for us isn't a small thing," Sergio Rubin, Francis' authorized biographer, told The Associated Press.

Rubin said the new pope "believes the church has to go into the streets" and be one with the people it serves and not impose its

Rubin said. "Pope Francis is someone with a great mental openness to enter into dialogue. He is very understanding of different situations. He doesn't like to impose."

Francis began Thursday with an early morning trip in a simple Vatican car — not the papal sedan — to a Roman basilica dedicated to the Virgin Mary, where he prayed before an icon of the Madonna.

Like many Latin American Catholics, Francis has a particular devotion to the

packed into rain-soaked St. Peter's Square after his election that he intended to pray to the Madonna "that she may watch over all of Rome."

The new pope, known for his work with the poor in Buenos Aires' slums, had charmed the crowd when he emerged on the loggia and greeted them with a simple and familiar: "Brothers and sisters, good evening."

On Thursday, members of his flock were charmed again when Francis



# Obama touts “great conversation” with Republicans

Continued from front

The U.S. debt is now at \$16.6 trillion. The Treasury Department on Wednesday indicated that the annual deficit, at least, is starting to shrink. Higher taxes and an improving economy are expected to hold the deficit below \$1 trillion for the first time since Obama took office.

House Republicans have offered a new budget proposal crafted by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, who ran as the 2012 Republican vice presidential nominee. Senate Democrats unveiled their own budget blueprint Wednesday.

The Ryan plan would balance the federal budget in 10 years with drastic spending cuts alone. The White House said it would harm the middle class. The plan touts longstanding Republican proposals to slash funding for domestic pro-



President Barack Obama and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., leave a meeting with House Democrats at the Capitol, in Washington, Thursday, March 14, 2013. At far left is Rep. Frederica Wilson, D-Fla., with Rep. Terri Sewell, D-Ala., second from left.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

grams, repeal Obama's health care overhaul and

privatize the Medicare health care program for

the elderly.

Obama's outreach start-

ed with an unusual dinner Obama hosted last week at a hotel near the White House for a dozen Senate Republicans. The president has shown a willingness to reduce spending on big entitlement programs such as Medicare, the Social Security pension program and the Medicaid health program for the poor — traditionally a taboo among Democrats — in exchange for closing loopholes in the tax code. Republicans, however, object to any more tax increases, insisting that Obama got his way with tax hikes on the wealthy in the New Year's Day deal that prevented tax hikes for most federal income tax payers and delayed the \$85 billion in spending cuts. Those cuts took effect March 1, even though neither party wanted them, because the two sides couldn't reach a compromise on an alternative. □



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# Michigan governor picks emergency manager for Detroit

MONICA DAVEY

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Rejecting an appeal by some Detroit leaders, Gov. Rick Snyder of Michigan said Thursday that his administration was proceeding with plans to send an emergency manager to run the state's largest city, and that he favored a lawyer who worked on Chrysler's bankruptcy proceedings for the job.

"In many respects it's a sad day," Snyder said Thursday afternoon during a news conference in Detroit, which has been strained by annual cash shortages and \$14 billion in long-term liabilities even as residents have complained of fading, insufficient services.

Snyder said he was recommending Kevyn D. Orr, a Washington lawyer and partner at Jones Day who has focused on restructuring businesses, to become Detroit's first emergency manager. Under state law, a board of leaders from several state departments formally hires emergency managers, and that board was preparing to meet later Thursday.

Members of Detroit's City Council, who are expected to lose power under a state-appointed manager, have contested the notion that the city requires an intervention and have



**Kevyn Orr, center, a lawyer who has focused on restructuring businesses, and Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, right, during a news conference in Detroit, March 14, 2013. Rejecting an appeal by some Detroit leaders, Snyder said Thursday that his administration was proceeding with plans to send Orr to become Detroit's first emergency manager. Mayor Dave Bing, left.**

(Fabrizio Costantini/The New York Times)

denounced the plan as undemocratic. This week, they asked Snyder to reconsider his finding, but his announcement Thursday does not close the possibility for other avenues of appeal, including in the courts.

Orr was lauded by some observers for his long experience with financially troubled businesses, overseeing bankruptcies and guiding restructurings, as well as earlier posts at federal entities such as the FDIC.

Orr, 54, who received his law degree from the University of Michigan, is also African-American – a fact that some in Detroit, which is nearly 83 percent black, said was likely to temper a racial backlash that was expected when Snyder, who is white and a Republican, announced state oversight.

For any arriving emergency manager, though, the challenges in Detroit will be intense, given the frustrations of local leaders who

disagree with any state intervention; a time frame for restructuring that could turn out to be as short as 18 months; and the depth of the city's financial problems, which some people suggest can be solved only through an eventual bankruptcy filing.

Municipal bankruptcies are extremely rare, but it was lost on no one that the state has selected an expert in bankruptcy law for Detroit, as opposed to a financial accountant, for instance, or a former city manager or elected leader, which have been picked for emergency management roles in some smaller Michigan cities.

Under Michigan law, a city can file for bankruptcy only under certain conditions. □

## Suspect in upstate NY shootings killed

MARC SANTORA

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An overnight standoff between the police and a gunman suspected of shooting six people, killing four of them, in upstate New York came to a bloody end early Thursday when the police stormed a building where he was holed up and killed him in an exchange of gunfire.

The gunman, identified by police as Kurt Myers, 64, had barricaded himself in an abandoned motel on North Main Street in the quiet village of Herkimer on Wednesday after he went on an apparently unprovoked shooting spree at two local businesses. When police first approached the

building Wednesday, he opened fire, sending officers scurrying for cover. State and local police officers, joined by FBI agents, took up positions around the building but had no contact with the suspect. Around 8 a.m., they raided the building, sending a dog wearing a camera first so they could see what they might be facing.

New York Trooper Jack L. Keller said Myers was in a room in the back of the building, seemingly uninjured and waiting for a fight, still armed with the same shotgun he had used in Wednesday's shooting spree. When SWAT and FBI officers burst into the room he opened fire.

"He shot and killed the dog," Keller said.

The officers returned fire and killed Myers, he said.

"We commend the courage and extraordinary efforts of the state police, the FBI, and local law enforcement officials in finding the suspect and ending this horrific spree of violence and bloodshed," Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said in a statement.

Myers' death ended what had been a terrifying and often confusing day and night for the normally placid communities in the Mohawk Valley, but there were still many unanswered questions, including what, if anything, incited the rampage. □

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<b>Entrée</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fresh Catch of the Day</b> prepared by our local chef just the way you like it.</li> <li>• <b>Jumbo Shrimp</b> from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine.</li> <li>• <b>Filet Mignon*</b> 8 oz. US Tenderloin</li> <li>• <b>Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast</b></li> </ul>
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# Cellphone talkers proved to be irritants, study says

DOUGLAS QUENQUA

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If you have just read the same paragraph 12 times because the person sitting

conversations are far more distracting and annoying than a dialogue between two people nearby.

In a study published

more irritated and distracted – and far more likely to remember the contents of the conversation – than students who worked on

logue" – their anger rises in the same way it does in other situations where they are not free to leave, like waiting for a train.

Students in a 2010 Cornell study had trouble completing modest tasks, like tracking a dot on a screen with a cursor, while listening to a tape of a one-sided conversation, even though they knew the conversation was the focus of the study.

The 149 students in Gal-

van's study did not know the side conversations were part of the research; 15 students who did figure it out were not counted in the results.

And while their ability to solve the anagrams was not noticeably impeded, the students listening to the halfalogues scored higher when rating themselves on a "distractibility scale." They also said that they remembered more specifics from the conversation. □



A commuter talks on her cellphone in New York. In a study published this week in the journal PLoS One, scientists found that overheard cellphone conversations are far more distracting and annoying than a dialogue between two people nearby.

(Caleb Ferguson/The New York Times)

next to you on the bus is chatting on her cellphone, feel free to show her this: scientists have found another piece of evidence that overheard cellphone

Wednesday in the journal PLoS One, college students who were asked to complete anagrams while a nearby researcher talked on her cellphone were

the same puzzles while the same conversation was conducted by two people in the room.

The study is the latest in a growing body of research on why cellphones rank so high on the list of modern irritants.

Mounting evidence suggests that the habits encouraged by mobile technology – namely, talking loudly in public to someone who is not there – are tailor-made for hijacking the cognitive functions of bystanders.

One reason, said Veronica V. Galvan, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of San Diego and the lead author of the study, is the brain's desire to fill in the blanks.

"If you only hear one person speaking, you're constantly trying to place that part of the conversation in context," Galvan said. "That's naturally going to draw your attention away from whatever else you're trying to do."

It is also a control thing, Galvan and her colleagues said. When people are trapped next to a one-sided conversation – known nowadays as a "halfa-

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The head of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration told lawmakers Thursday he stands by his plan to allow passengers to carry small knives onto planes despite a growing backlash against the proposal. It's unlikely in these days of hardened cockpit doors and other preventative measures that the small folding knives could be used by terrorists to take over a plane, TSA Administrator John Pistole told a hearing of the House Homeland Security Committee.

On the other hand, searching for the knives on passengers or in their carry-on bags is time consuming, Pistole said.

TSA screeners confiscate about 2,000 such knives every day, with each incident chewing up about two to three minutes, he said.

"I think the decision is solid and it stands and we plan to move forward," Pistole said.

The policy, which goes into effect April 25, has sparked strong opposition from flight attendants, federal air marshals, some pilot unions, aviation insurers and some airline chief executives. In the hands of the wrong passengers, the knives present an unnecessary safety risk to flight attendants and other

passengers, critics say. Several members of the House committee said they share those concerns and urged Pistole to reconsider his position. Besides knives, the policy will also allow passengers to include in their carry-on luggage novelty-size baseball bats less than 24 inches (610 millimeters) long, toy plastic bats, billiard cues, ski poles, hockey sticks, lacrosse sticks and two golf clubs. Items like box cutters and razor blades are still prohibited. Knives permitted under the policy must be able to fold up and have blades that are 2.36 inches (60 millimeters) or less in length and are less than a half-inch (127 millimeters) wide.

The policy is aimed at allowing passengers to carry pen knives, corkscrews with small blades and other small knives

There has been a gradual easing of some of the security measures applied to airline passengers after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks against the U.S. The new policy mostly conforms U.S. security standards to international standards and allows the TSA to concentrate its energies on more serious safety threats, Pistole said.

The policy change was based on a recommendation from an internal TSA working group, which decided the items represented no real danger, the agency has said. □



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## Lost time:

## Wrongfully convicted, Dewey is still seeking restitution

JACK HEALY

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COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.

Robert Dewey spent almost 18 years in prison for a murder he did not commit. Now he spends his time waiting. Waiting for food stamps, or his monthly \$698 disability check. Swallowing painkillers and waiting for his wrenched back to stop aching. Waiting for the state to repay him for lost time.

A lifelong motorcycle rider, Dewey, 52, knows the dangers of slick and twisting roads. But in the 10 months since he was exonerated by DNA testing and released from prison, the most perilous roads in front of him are not the highways he navigates on his rebuilt Harley-Davidson, but the one leading him away from prison and into a bewildering world of smartphones, grandchildren and uncertain new freedoms.

"When you come out, you're on top," he said one recent afternoon, dragging on a cigarette and sinking deeper into the couch at a friend's house. "It's easy to fall."

Dewey's release is among a few high-profile exonerations that are now prodding Colorado to confront the question of what it owes inmates who have been falsely imprisoned, a civic soul-searching that Louisiana, Texas, Illinois and other states are also confronting.

Colorado is one of 23 states that have no system to compensate the wrongfully convicted. It does not provide a formal network of counseling, education or other assistance, which advocacy groups like the Innocence Project say aggravates an already diffi-

cult and meager transition back to civilian life.

A bill in Colorado's state-house would change that here, granting \$70,000 for each year of wrongful imprisonment, plus tuition waivers at state colleges. It passed an early legislative test last Thursday, receiving unanimous support from the state's House Judiciary Committee.

"We have a responsibility to make this injustice a justice," said Rep. Angela Williams, D-Denver, who is championing the measure. "You lose everything. You're starting from scratch. How do you save money? How do you invest?" A spokesman for Colorado Gov. John W. Hickenlooper said he had not decided whether to support the bill. But Dewey, now jobless, is betting everything on its passage.

"I'm just seeing dollars roll down the sink," he said. "I have no credit. I asked my bank for a loan of \$250 — they wouldn't do it. It's hard out here."

Dewey had lived a rough life. He served time for armed robbery and unlawful possession of a weapon. He had worked as a laborer and repairman, but by the mid-1990s, he was using drugs and hanging out on the fringes of a ragged group of methamphetamine users in western Colorado.

Then, in 1994, Jacie Taylor, a 19-year-old woman who had fallen into the same circle, was raped and strangled in her apartment in Palisade, Colo. Police eventually homed in on Dewey, who had been staying nearby, and arrested him in June 1995.

Years later, DNA evidence would link the murder to

Douglas Thames, who had also passed through Palisade. Thames has now been charged in Taylor's death. Dewey knew none of this in 1996 when he was sentenced to life in prison. It felt like a dream, he said,

the moment. I just knew it wasn't me."

After years of work by his court-appointed lawyer, Danyel Joffe, the Innocence Project came on board in 2007 and paid for tests that showed no DNA

mailed donations of \$100 or \$200 and sent him tools and parts for his motorcycle. A man in prison even sent Dewey \$20, he said. But the donations have dried up, and he is often short of money. He wonders wheth-



Robert Dewey, who spent almost 18 years in prison for a murder he did not commit, at Unitarian Universalist Church in Greeley, Colo. Dewey, released 10 months ago and is still waiting for payment of his lost time. Colorado is one of 23 states that have no system to compensate the wrongfully convicted.

(Matthew Staver/The New York Times)

a grim movie in which he was the audience, not the protagonist. Next thing he knew, he was a convicted killer peering out a cell window at distant city lights glowing on the horizon.

"I didn't know who did it," he said. "Didn't care at

links between Dewey and the crime scene. His conviction was reversed, and he was released last April. He left with an apology and handshake from prosecutors in Mesa County, he said, but little else.

After his release, people

er he will ever save enough to make it to Missouri to see grandchildren who were born while he was in prison. He says he wants to work, but a painful back injury aggravated in prison makes him reluctant to do so. □

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French President Francois Hollande speaks during a media conference at an EU summit in Brussels on Thursday, March 14, 2013. Hollande said Thursday France and Britain are pushing the EU to lift its arms embargo on Syria as soon as possible so that they can send weapons to rebel fighters.

(AP Photo/Virginia Mayo)

## France ready to arm Syrian rebels

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — France and Britain are pushing the European Union to lift its arms embargo on Syria as soon as possible so that they can send weapons to rebel fighters, French President Francois Hollande said Thursday.

The two countries are seeking military help for the rebels by the end of May or earlier if possible, but face Germany and other EU nations that have been skeptical about sending weapons, pointing to the risk of further escalation in a volatile region.

Hollande insisted that the rebels are fighting on an uneven battlefield because Russia and others are arming Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime.

"We have to go further," Hollande said. "For two years now, there is the clear willingness of Bashar Assad to use all means to hit out at his own people."

"We cannot let a people be massacred like this," Hollande told reporters in Brussels, where he is attending an EU summit. "So already the British and French are in favor of lifting the embargo."

"Why do we have to go further? Because there are threats, even fears, that chemical arms will be used," Hollande said, with-

out elaborating.

The British government said that it is not ruling out any options to help the opposition.

A unanimous EU vote would be needed to lift the embargo before it is up for extension at the end of May.

But if that doesn't happen, a French diplomat said France is leaning toward refusing to vote for the extension — a position Britain has also hinted at — which would spell its end.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, though, has her reservations and fears that might set off an arms race in the civil war.

"Attention has to be paid that the opposing side won't be delivered with yet more arms than by countries that have a different position than Germany or the European Union nations regarding Assad," Merkel said.

"That's a very complicated judgment call," she said.

Hollande insisted something had to move since there was a full stalemate in the search for a political solution.

"All efforts to get a political transition have for the moment been ruined by Bashar Assad."

Britain said in a statement Thursday that the international effort for a political solution in Syria "has little

chance of gathering momentum unless the regime feels compelled to come to the negotiating table. They need to feel that the balance on the ground has shifted against them."

Referring to the EU embargo, the statement said, "We are not prepared to rule out any options to bring an end to the suffering of millions of innocent Syrians."

Talk of arming the rebels comes as concerns have been raised about abuses by opposition fighters.

Human rights monitors said in a report Thursday that Syrian rebels routinely kill captured soldiers and suspected regime informers. However, the report also said that abuses by the Assad's regime remain far more deadly, systematic and widespread.

Hollande also insisted that arms deliveries would not end up in the hands of fundamentalists.

"I got all the guarantees on equipment deliveries and on their good end destination," he said.

Russia's foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, warned Wednesday that arming Syria's rebels would be a breach of international law. Moscow has been the main ally of Assad, shielding him from U.N. sanctions over the two-year conflict. □

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## Pentagon:

## Iranian plane pursued US spy drone

ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press

**TEHRAN/WASHINGTON (AP)** — An Iranian fighter jet approached a U.S. surveillance drone over the Gulf but broke off its pursuit after the pilot of a U.S. escort plane radioed a verbal warning, the Pentagon said Thursday.

Pentagon press secretary George Little said the incident occurred Tuesday and that the unarmed MQ-1 Predator surveillance drone as well as two U.S. military escort planes remained over international waters at all times.

Little said the drone was

conducting a "routine classified" surveillance mission. He said the Iranian F-4 plane came as close as 16 miles (25 kilometers) to the drone before it departed. Little initially said that a U.S. escort plane discharged a flare to warn the Iranian pilot, but he later retracted that statement, saying instead that the Iranian plane broke off its pursuit after receiving a U.S. "verbal warning."

Lt. Col. Wesley Miller, a Pentagon spokesman, said he could not explain where the Pentagon got the incorrect information about a flare. Miller also

said he could not say how close the U.S. planes came to Iranian territorial waters. In November an Iranian fighter fired upon, but did not hit, an unarmed Predator over the Gulf. In the aftermath of that incident, the U.S. told the Iranians that it would continue to conduct surveillance flights "consistent with long-standing practice and our commitment to the security of the region," Little said. "We also communicated that we reserve the right to protect our military assets as well as our forces and will continue to do so going forward," he added. □



# Workers protest to get EU leaders to end austerity

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Some 10,000 workers from across the European Union pro-

tested outside a summit of EU leaders Thursday, demanding they end years of austerity and instead focus on curbing runaway unemployment with more spending. The protest in frost and snow just outside EU headquarters vented frustra-

tion over spending cuts and tax hikes imposed by the bloc's governments to deal with the debt crisis. Trade unions and an in-

menting austerity policies makes no economic sense whatsoever," said European Parliament President Martin Schulz.

EU President Herman Van Rompuy sought to focus attention of the EU's 27 national leaders on spiraling youth employment, which in some nations like Spain and Greece, is creating a 'lost generation' in the workforce.

"We cannot turn a blind eye to the social emergency in some of our countries," Van Rompuy said.

Unemployment across the 17 EU countries that use the euro rose to a record 11.9 percent during January, from 10.8 in the previous year. Youth unemployment is also continuing to rise unabated, peaking at 24.2 percent.

Yet the scope for action is limited. Most leaders remain committed to reducing public debt quickly, primarily through spending cuts and raising taxes.

"We won't overcome a debt crisis with more debt," Van Rompuy told the leaders in his opening address to the summit.

The two-day EU spring summit, which will stretch into Friday, traditionally centers on the economy, and

peaking unemployment has given it special urgency.

"No leader can be happy with the situation where 26 million people are out of work in the European Union. That is why we are here," said Ireland's Prime Minister Enda Kenny.

However, the leaders have not yet offered an alternative to the fundamentals of the austerity policies — even though some appear ready to temper some of the measures.

EU Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn insisted strict austerity works and pointed to Kenny's Ireland as an example of where "fiscal consolidation pays off."

Ireland on Wednesday successfully sold €5 billion (\$6.5 billion) in 10-year bonds — its first long-term debt sale since being bailed out in 2010. The country embarked on a strict austerity program to meet the bail-out conditions of its international creditors, the European Commission, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund. □



Union members light a fire during a demonstration outside of an EU summit in Brussels on Thursday, March 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert)

tested outside a summit of EU leaders Thursday, demanding they end years of austerity and instead focus on curbing runaway unemployment with more spending.

The protest in frost and snow just outside EU headquarters vented frustra-

creasing number of economists say austerity has inflicted severe economic pain — the economy of 17 EU countries that use the euro are stuck in recession and joblessness is at a record high.

"Deepening the recession by dogmatically imple-

EU leaders acknowledge swift action is needed to keep social foment in southern Europe from bubbling over.

"I would not exclude that we run the risk of seeing a social revolution," said Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker.

## Germany apprehends new suspect in Dutch art heist

Associated Press

**AMSTERDAM (AP)** — German prosecutors said Thursday they arrested a man after he allegedly tried to sell seven paintings taken in a Netherlands heist, including a Picasso and two Monets, back to their Dutch owner.

The 46-year-old German is suspected of blackmail for allegedly offering to broker the return of the paintings to the Triton Foundation, a collection of avant-garde art.

The seven paintings, which also included a Matisse and a Gauguin, were grabbed in the early hours of Oct. 16 in a lightning theft from the Kunsthall gallery in Rotterdam where they were on display. The paintings, worth tens of millions of dollars, have not been recovered.

Cologne's head prosecutor Ulrich Bremer, told The

Associated Press that the man was arrested on a warrant from his office on Wednesday near the city of Freiburg in southwestern Germany. He would not release the man's name.

Three Romanian men suspected of carrying out the heist were arrested Jan. 22 in Bucharest and remain in custody there. A 19-year-old Romanian woman was arrested in Rotterdam on March 4 on suspicion of assisting the thieves.

Police believe the works were brought shortly after the theft to a home in Rotterdam where the young woman was staying and removed from their frames. Rotterdam prosecution spokeswoman Babeth Knol confirmed Thursday that Dutch prosecutors are working with German and Romanian police in the case, but could not comment further. □



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## Strict curfew in Indian Kashmir after militant attack

DAR YASIN

Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — A strict curfew was imposed in most of Indian-controlled Kashmir on Thursday, with thousands of troops fanning out across the region a day after a militant attack left five paramilitary soldiers dead. The militant strike was the bloodiest in years in Srinagar, the region's main city. The attack caused an uproar in India's Parliament on Thursday, as opposition lawmakers accused the government of not using intelligence reports to protect the soldiers. Two militants staged Wednesday's attack, lobbing grenades and opening fire on a group of paramilitary soldiers, killing five troops. Soldiers shot dead both militants. Later Wednesday, paramilitary soldiers fatally shot a civilian who they said was part of a group of pro-

testers throwing stones at paramilitary vehicles. Local residents, however, said the man was not a protester.

Another civilian was killed when he was hit by a paramilitary vehicle. The paramilitary group, the Central

Reserve Police Force, said that death was an accident and not related to the day's violence.

The civilian deaths spiraled into larger protests, leading to the imposition of the curfew. Thousands of armed government troops patrolled the streets of the curfew-bound towns Thursday.

No group has claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack.

Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde said the militants appeared to have come from neighbor and archrival Pakistan. The attackers were found to be carrying a diary that contained Pakistani phone numbers and a tube of skin ointment manufactured in the Pakistani city of Karachi, he told Parliament. Pakistan denied the charges.

Anti-India sentiment runs deep in the Himalayan region, which has been wracked by more than two decades of separatist violence. □



Indian policemen beat an activist of opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as he protests against Wednesday's militant attack in Srinagar, in Jammu, India, Thursday, March 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Channi Anand)

## Last-minute snag stalls Israeli coalition deal

JOSEF FEDERMAN

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reached a deal Thursday to form a new coalition government, but a last-minute snag over the title of his new partners kept the plan from being formalized for at least one more day. The new government is expected to try to curb years of preferential treatment for the country's ultra-Orthodox minority and may push for renewed Mideast peace efforts. But the late-hour disagreement reflects the tough challenges Netanyahu could face keeping his new coalition intact. It would be the first in a decade to exclude ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties. It includes two new rising stars

in Israeli politics who have vowed to end a controversial system of draft exemptions and generous welfare subsidies granted to tens of thousands of ultra-Orthodox seminary students.

"The next term will be one of the most challenging in the history of the state," Netanyahu told his Likud-Yisrael Beiteinu parliamentary faction Thursday. "We are facing great security and diplomatic challenges."

After weeks of deadlock, Netanyahu wrapped up coalition negotiations overnight with Yesh Atid and the Jewish Home, a party aligned with West Bank settlers. Later Thursday, however, the two parties — Yesh Atid and Jewish Home — accused Netanyahu of reneging on a promise to

appoint their leaders as deputy prime ministers and all sides were in talks to resolve the dispute. Netanyahu's Likud Party had no comment on the allegation. The issue was not expected to be a deal breaker and an agreement was still expected to be signed within a day so that the new government could be sworn in by Monday, just two days before Barack Obama is to arrive for his first visit as U.S. president. Significant progress on talks on the peace front could prove to be more difficult than other domestic issues, given bitter disagreements among coalition members as well as deep differences with the Palestinians.

Nonetheless, Netanyahu's senior partner, the centrist

Yesh Atid party, is vowing to at least make an effort to restart negotiations. The peace process remained frozen throughout Netanyahu's previous four-year term, when his right-wing bloc partnered with other hard-line and ultra-Orthodox factions.

"We have to begin talks with the Palestinians immediately. We need to sit at the negotiation table. We haven't sat there for four years," Yael German of Yesh Atid, who is expected to serve as the new health minister, told Israel's Army Radio. "Let's sit and proceed toward a peace agreement. It is essential." Although Netanyahu's bloc emerged as the biggest faction in the Jan. 22 election with 31 seats, he strug-

gled to form a coalition with the necessary 61-seat majority in the 120-member parliament. His new coalition is expected to control 68 seats.

The negotiations stalled over several thorny issues, including the division of key Cabinet portfolios and plans to reform the draft. The ultra-Orthodox make up about 8 percent of Israel's 8 million citizens. Through the coalition government system, they have traditionally wielded disproportionate influence by ensuring a parliamentary majority for a string of prime ministers. With the exception of a three-year period earlier this century, they have served in every government since the late 1970s. □





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## The Philippines set to open \$1B Resort & Casino

OLIVER TEVES

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

The Philippines will become one of the biggest gambling centers in the world, vying with Macau, Singapore and Las Vegas for Asia's high rollers, officials of a \$1 billion casino resort opening in Manila this weekend said Thursday.

Studies project that the country's gambling revenue of \$1.9 billion will rise to \$6 billion, which is currently what Singapore's two casinos generate, in about five years, said Michael French, chief operating officer of the Solaire Resort and Casino.

Solaire will open on Saturday as one the country's biggest hotel-casino complexes in ceremonies to be attended by President Benigno Aquino III, who is targeting 10 million tourists by 2016.

It has 500 hotel rooms, 1,200 slot machines and 295 gaming tables, including those in private rooms with a view of Manila Bay for high rollers.

It has eight restaurants, a spa, a night club, and will have a 1,800-seat Broadway-type theater, French said.

It is the first of four such developments in the \$4 billion Entertainment City being built on a 100-hectare (247-acre) property reclaimed from Manila Bay. The flagship of Bloomberry Resorts Corp. is majority owned by one of the Philippines' wealthiest men, container ports operator Enrique Razon.

The Entertainment City development is potential employment and economic bonanza for the Philippines. □

## China's Xi caps rise to take bold leadership

GILLIAN WONG

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) —

Xi Jinping caps his rise to the helm of China at a time when calls are mounting for bold leadership to tackle faltering economic growth, unbridled corruption and a severely befouled environment that endanger his Communist Party's legitimacy. Xi was elevated to the presidency Thursday by the rubber-stamp national

pointed Saturday.

Xi and his team now steer a rising global power beset with many domestic challenges that will test their leadership. Chief among them are a sputtering economy that's overly dominated by powerful state industries and mounting public anger over widespread corruption, a burgeoning income gap and social inequality.

An increasingly vocal Chi-

life. To have money and food, and live without worry of being tortured, or having their homes forcefully demolished."

"The entire country is watching for Xi's next step," the writer said.

That sentiment was echoed by at least one National People's Congress delegate as he filed out from the huge, red-carpeted cavern of Beijing's Great Hall of the Peo-

children and affordable medical care.

Xi's accession marks only the second orderly transfer of power in more than six decades of Communist Party rule. He was the only candidate for president in Thursday's ballot and won 2,952-1, with three abstaining in the tightly choreographed ritual the party calls an election.

After the result was announced, the 59-year-old Xi bowed to delegates and turned to his predecessor, Hu, seated on his right. The two shook hands and posed for photos.

The son of a revolutionary veteran, Xi cuts an authoritative figure with a confidence and congeniality that was lacking in his predecessor, the aloof and stiff Hu. He quickly moved to court the military after taking over from Hu as head of the party's Central Military Commission, making high-profile visits to naval, air force and infantry bases and meeting with nuclear missile commanders.

Xi has also sought to court other constituencies. He made a trip to the south to show he's interested in economic reforms, repeatedly stated his staunch belief in party power to appeal to hard-liners, visited the poor to burnish his common-man credentials and espoused the "Chinese Dream" to tap into middle class aspirations.

But for Xi to consolidate his power within the party, he will come up against various interest groups, such as the sons and daughters of communist China's founding fathers who want to keep benefiting from their connections, or those with links to banks and state industries who don't want their privileged positions threatened. □



Former Chinese President Hu Jintao, left, and newly-named President Xi Jinping clap during the National People's Congress held in Beijing's Great Hall of the People, in China, Thursday, March 14, 2013. China's new leader capped his rise Thursday by adding the largely ceremonial title of president, though he will need cautious maneuvering to consolidate his power and build support from a public that is increasingly clamoring for change. (AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

legislature, giving him the last of the three titles held by his predecessor, Hu Jintao. Xi already was China's pre-eminent leader after being appointed head of the Communist Party and chairman of the military last November in a once-a-decade handover to a new group of leaders.

The final steps in the transition unfold over the next two days with the expected anointing of Li Keqiang, the party's No. 2, as premier on Friday. The central bank governor and finance and other ministers will be ap-

nese public is expressing impatience with the government's unfulfilled promises to curb abuses of power by local officials, better police the food supply and clean up the country's polluted rivers, air and soil.

"What do ordinary people care about? Food safety, and smog if you are in a big city, and official corruption," said the prominent Chinese author and social commentator Muring Xuecun, the pen name of author Hao Qun. "They just want to have a peaceful, stable and safe

ple after Thursday's vote. Li Qinghe veered slightly from the ingratiating remarks that have come to be expected of deputies, saying that while he "resolutely endorsed" Xi's selection as president, the position was vested with high expectations. "I hope that he will pay more attention to problems affecting the people's lives," said Li, a petrochemical plant worker and delegate from the northeastern province of Heilongjiang. He cited as his concerns jobs for rural migrants, schools for their



## CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

### Fire damages Jamaica hotel; no injuries

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)** — A popular hotel in Jamaica's capital has been evacuated after a fire broke out Thursday. Firefighters say no injuries were reported. The fire apparently started in the kitchen of the Wyndham Hotel in New Kingston, the Jamaican capital's financial district. It's one of several hotels in the area that cater to business travelers and tourists. Tourism revenues have been Jamaica's greatest source of income for decades. Guests were taken to the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel just down the street as firefighters battled the blaze. It was not immediately clear how many guests were staying at the hotel when the fire started. □

### US warning of crime in Turks and Caicos

**PROVIDENCIALES, Turks and Caicos Islands (AP)** — The U.S. government has issued a warning about the threat of armed robbery in the Turks and Caicos Islands, a British territory where violent crime is rare. A statement from the U.S. Embassy in the Bahamas said it has received increased reports of armed robberies of U.S. citizens in Providenciales, the most populated island in the chain. It said there were two incidents in the tourist area of Grace Bay and one in a private home and warned people to remain cautious. Gov. Ric Todd said there were a few serious incidents recently but the nation has one of the lowest levels of crime in the Caribbean. □

### Puerto Rico sites now historic landmarks

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Two Puerto Rican sites have been named U.S. historic landmarks: the colonial district of Old San Juan and the home of a poet and literary critic. Old San Juan is the oldest city of any U.S. state or jurisdiction. It is also the site of the oldest U.S. home, convent, governor's mansion and Christian church. It features brightly colored buildings and blue cobblestone streets. The other landmark is the San Juan home of Concha Melendez Ramirez, a prominent literary figure from the 20th century. Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi said this week that officials will seek to have Old San Juan listed as a UNESCO World Heritage City. □

### Bahamian fraud suspect back in Canada

**NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)** — A Bahamas resident wanted on criminal charges in Canada has returned there to face investigators. Canada's anti-corruption police said this week that Jeremy Morris voluntarily flew from the Bahamas to Montreal to face allegations of fraud in the construction of a hospital in Quebec. Police spokeswoman Anne-Frederick Laurence says Morris was arrested upon arrival at Montreal's international airport. She says he had an initial court hearing this week. Morris is the administrator of a Bahamas-based investment company linked to the alleged fraud. Arthur Porter is another Bahamas resident who is wanted in the Canadian fraud case. □

### French journalist killed in Haiti accident

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)** — A French journalist who helped train fellow reporters in Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake was killed in a road accident in the countryside, his employer said this week. The media organization Internews Europe said in a statement that Philippe Allouard died along with an IT engineer of a radio program who was only named as Leonidas. The accident happened between the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince and the western coastal city of Leogane. No other details about the accident were provided. A spokesman for Haiti's national police department said he was unaware of the incident. □

## Maduro warns of plot to kill Capriles



Opposition leader Henrique Capriles pauses during a press conference in Caracas, Venezuela. (AP Photo/Rodrigo)

**FABIOLA SANCHEZ**

**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela**

**(AP)** — Venezuela's acting president says security forces have detected a plot to assassinate the country's opposition leader.

Nicolas Maduro says the government has offered to provide security for Henrique Capriles as Venezuela prepares for an upcoming presidential election.

Maduro says intelligence agency director Miguel Rodriguez Torres has met with representatives of Capriles to discuss the issue.

A member of the opposition leader's campaign camp told The Associated Press that government officials and Capriles representatives met to discuss coordinating security, but authorities did not talk to them about the plot mentioned by Maduro.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the issue. □

## Holy rivals? Brazil ponders Argentine pope

**JENNY BARCHFIELD**

**Associated Press**

**TOLEDO, Brazil (AP)** — Bitter

rivals in soccer. The butt of one another's biting jokes. The samba versus the tango.

Brazil and its neighbor Argentina are bitter rivals in just about everything.

But now, in the realm of religion at least, Argentina has supremely passed the giant next door.

The Wednesday election of Pope Francis, formerly known as Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina, put the country a step ahead of Brazil when it comes to holy matters.

The dagger in Brazil's heart? The fact that for a week leading up to the conclave at the Vatican where the globe's cardinals gathered to choose the pontiff, Brazilian Cardinal Odilo Scherer was tout-

ed as a front-runner.

Despite that, most Brazilians said that it was great the new pope was Latin American, even if — gulp! — he's coming from its biggest regional rival.

"We can't question such a decision, even if we have a strong rivalry between Brazil and Argentina," said Suelen Roos, a waitress at the Quincas cafe in Toledo, where Scherer was raised. "This isn't soccer, after all. We can't think like soccer hooligans, we must think like good Christians."

More Catholics live in Brazil than any other nation. The 124 million Catholics in Brazil is a figure three times larger than Argentina's entire population.

Scherer's brother Bruno, moments after the new pope was revealed to not be his brother, sat quietly by himself in a plaza be-

hind the main church in the Scherer family's small hometown of Toledo in southern Brazil, just 95 kilometers (60 miles) from the Argentine border.

"I'm really just happy for the church that it's not another European," he said. "The fact that he's a Latin American is already a big step in the right direction." In Sao Paulo, where Odilo Scherer serves as archbishop, his right-hand clergyman Edmar Peron, the auxiliary bishop, said the choice for the new pope was a surprise.

"I had never heard of him. I was not frustrated that Dom Odilo was not elected and I felt a certain tranquility when I learned that the new pope is an Argentine," he said. "Of course, Brazilian Catholics dreamed of having a pope who was born here." □





## Celebrating 325 years of dedicated service at the Radisson!

**PALMBEACH** - The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa hosted an elegant evening just recently in celebration of the resort's thirteen colleagues, who have each concluded 25 years of uninterrupted service.

The evening's program included an Anniversary Celebration, and an award-presentation to the Colleague, Supervisor and Manager of the Year, in appreciation of 2012 top performers.

Attended by the resort's managers and depart-



ment heads who mingled and welcomed their peers, the evening was a much-enjoyed success, as colleagues celebrating silver anniversaries received recognition for their long-term career choices, with gratitude and joy.

The evening served to acknowledge the hard-working anniversary celebrants, and their unchanging spirit of hospitality which prevails at the resort, as the soul of the Grande Dame of Palm Beach remains evergreen, offering genuine Aruban warmth so treasured by resort guests.

The celebrating colleagues

included: Lutgarna Croes Winklaar, Andrew St Aubyn, Robert Figaroa, Rainier Ponson, Jan Carlos Thiel, Albertico Leung, Marelva Jacobina, Jacqueline Leyba, Aura Reed, Johnny Faro, Esperanza Castillo, Estela Correa and Harold Maduro, pictured here showered with gifts and tokens of appreciation. □





## Bugaloe Velkommen Norwegian Loyal Guests Kelt and Kjersti Maat!

**PALM BEACH** - Bugaloe Velkommen guest of the week Kelt and Kjersti Maat from Norway! They have discovered Aruba 10 years ago, and have been coming every year! They love Aruba because of the lovely, friendly people and the warm welcome they always receive.

Mostly they love everything about Bugaloe, especially the staff. Kjersti even had her own signature pizza made with taco beef and cheese, named 'Princess Pizza'. Their favorite drinks are Heineken and Brown Lady. The funniest memory about Bugaloe is when having an

unusually big bill, the bartender made them sign with a pen with lots of feathers, saying: 'This pen is only for the big bills!'. The Bugaloe crew would like to thank Kelt and Kjersti for being loyal Bugaloe guests for so long, and hope to see them more often! ☐



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## Leo and Annette Giroux honored at Divi Village!!



**DRUIF BEACH** - The Giroux's have been coming to Aruba for over 10 years. They say they love Aruba for many reasons, but mainly because of the safety and beaches. Recently Jonathan Boekhoudt with Aruba Tourism

Authority conducted an honoring ceremony presenting Leo and Annette Giroux with the "Distinguished Visitor" certificate. The ceremony was held at the Divi Village in the presence of Gloria Defoe from the Divi Village. ☐



# AAR: The Association of Aruba Realtors is a Reality

**PALM BEACH** -The first members' meeting of the Association of Aruban Realtors (AAR) took place recently.

After its formal establishment in May 2012, many preparations were made by the initiators in order to lay the foundation for a professional realtors' association in accordance with the Dutch model.

After the AAR had been established, all active realtors in Aruba were approached to become members of the association. We can proudly announce that the following 14 real estate offices have currently registered as members of the AAR: Century 21 Best & Solid Real Estate, Aruba Living Today, Solito ERA, Alto Vista Real Estate, Prima Casa Real Estate, Coldwell Banker, Sotheby's, MPG Real Estate, Aruba Happy Rentals, Aruba Palm Realtors, Top

Homes, Limbo Aruba, and Remax.

Most real estate offices attended the first members' meeting. After the formal part, notarial office R.E. Yarzagaray, represented by its employee Ms. Petra Seyfarth and civil law notary Ralph Yarzagaray, gave the members present a seminar on Compliance and the Law; National Ordinance prevention and suppression of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (LWTF) and the consequences hereof for the realtors and the notarial profession in Aruba. Subsequently, it was Power Systems' turn, on behalf of which company Mr. Marcel van Schie and Mr. Joost Horward gave a presentation for a listing website for the AAR to be newly introduced.

The purpose of the AAR is to improve the mutual collaboration between



Several new members proudly receive their AAR membership certificates.

the real estate offices in Aruba. It also pursues raising the standard of the local real estate business in general to a higher level. Ultimately with the result to

be able to provide buyers and sellers of real estate in Aruba better service and in addition the AAR can act as discussion partner on behalf of the local real es-

tate business towards the Central Bank, local commercial banks, the Collector of Taxes, the Office for the Disclosure of Unusual Transactions, etc. □

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## Vote for Clown Doctors Aruba in the Kroon Appel election!



**PALM BEACH** - The Clown Doctors of Aruba need your help: the foundation, which puts smiles on the faces of children in the hospital, on those of challenged kids and on the wrinkled faces of the elderly on the island, hopes to win the election called Kroon Appels. Not only will the winning foundation be invited to be present at the awards presentation of the apples by the new king and queen of Holland, but there is also a good-sized financial contribution attached. And that is why the Clown Doctors hope to win: with the money it would like to establish a clowns' home, from where direct tv presentations can liven up the lives of chronically sick children and home-bound others. The clowns have plenty ideas how to go about it, the only thing lacking is money. So please take the time to surf to [www.kroonappels.nl](http://www.kroonappels.nl), select Aruba and the Clown Doctors foundation, like what they're doing and keep your fingers crossed. With your support the Clown Doctors may be able to make many more children, adults and elderly people smile. Your votes may make the difference this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Thank you! ☐



## SV Real Koyari soccer club baptizes new uniforms

**ORANJESTAD** - SV Real Koyari a local soccer club of the second division baptized its new uniforms at the Local Store this weekend. The attractive grey shirts carry the logo of the Local Store in the front and the logo of Island Temptations Magazine on the back.



The Real Koyari team is made up of enthusiastic amateur ballplayers, ages 18 to 33, coached by Oscar "Oka" Wolff, with Francis Semerel and Captain Darwin Tromp.

The team usually plays at the Bubali soccer field, celebrating its 13th anniversary, having been established in the year 2000. Pictured here the team members sporting new uniform shirts, they are joined

by Curt Harms, at the Local Store, a popular bar at the heart of town across Royal Plaza. Island Temptations is an internationally recognized, award-winning publication. The magazine received the Caribbean Tourism Organization's prestigious Travel Writers Award three years in a row, and is avidly read by tourists, repeat visitors, and locals. The new Real Koyari uniform project was coordinated by Jordick! ☐



## NY AG: NFL must act on sexual orientation concern

In this Oct. 2, 2012 file photo, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman speaks during a news conference at the Justice Department in Washington. Schneiderman is urging the NFL to look into whether recruits were improperly asked about their sexual orientation which he says would be illegal in New York. Schneiderman is releasing a letter to NFL Commissioner Goodell reminding him that discrimination based on sexual orientation is illegal in New York and in at least 23 other states where the NFL's 32 teams are based.

Associated Press  
Page 20



Sergio Garcia, of Spain, chips from the seventh fairway during the first round of the Tampa Bay Championship golf tournament Thursday, March 14, 2013, in Palm Harbor, Fla. Associated Press

## Shawn Stefani flawless to take lead at Tampa Bay

DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer  
PALM HARBOR, Florida (AP)

— For a PGA Tour rookie, Shawn Stefani certainly looks comfortable on a big stage.

In breezy conditions on a tough golf course, Stefani never came close to making a bogey until his final hole Thursday in the Tampa Bay Championship. He rolled in a par putt from just inside 5 feet to complete a 6-under 65 and take a two-shot lead over Brian Harman.

One rookie already has won this year. Four others have played in the final group.

Continued on page 18



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (6) goes up for a shot between Philadelphia 76ers' Damien Wilkins (8) and Spencer Hawes (00) in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 13, 2013, in Philadelphia. Associated Press  
Page 20

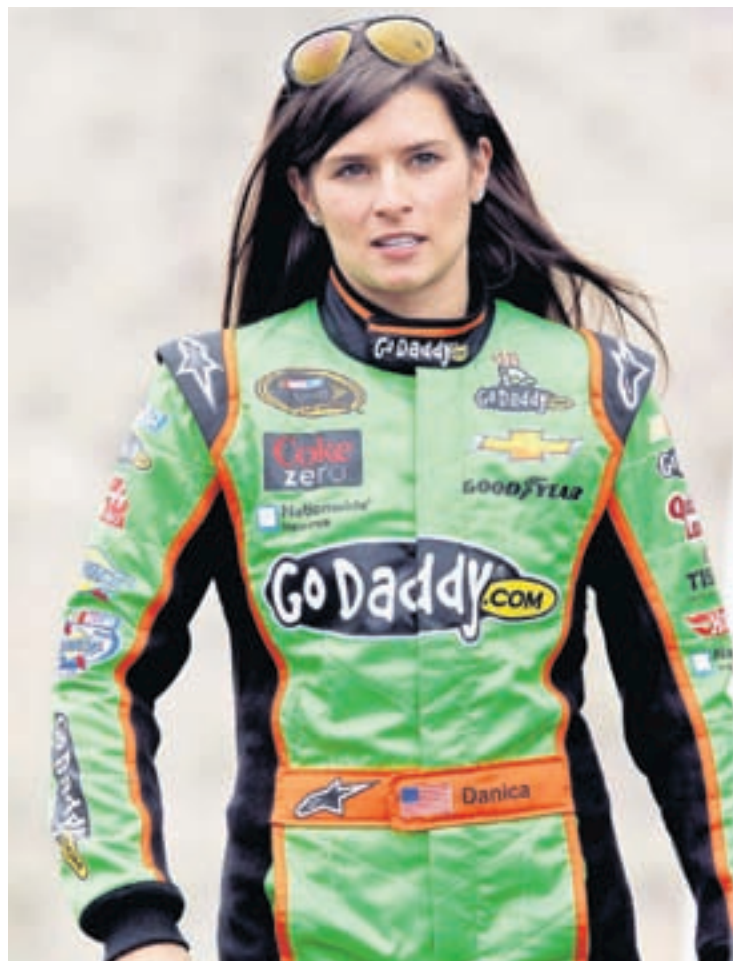


# F1's Ecclestone envious of Danica Patrick success

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)** — Formula One chief Bernie Ecclestone says he would like to lure Danica Patrick to the sport but acknowledges she would be unlikely to make the move. As the pre-eminent female driver in motorsports, firstly in Indy Car and now in NASCAR, Patrick attracts a lot of new fans and sponsors.

Ecclestone told the F1 website on Wednesday that "she will hardly want to give up the exposure she has in the U.S. to come here and maybe not make it."

"All the things that people worry about — whether a woman can cope with the G-forces and all that — she has proven that she can." □



Danica Patrick is introduced to the crowd before the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race, Sunday, March 3, 2013, in Avondale, Ariz. Associated Press

# Puerto Rico rallies past Italy 4-3 in

**STEVEN WINE**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Alex Rios scored the go-ahead run without a play as Puerto Rico rallied to oust Italy from the World Baseball Classic with a 4-3 victory Wednesday night.

The Puerto Ricans went hitless in their first 12 at-bats with runners in scoring position but still overcame a 3-0 deficit to score once in the sixth inning and three times in the eighth. Rios crossed the plate standing up for the final run on a grounder to shortstop, which Jack Santora backhanded before throwing wide to first. That was one of four misplays by Italian shortstops, including three in the sixth by Anthony Granato, who allowed an unearned run to score and was then replaced by Santora. The Italians blew a 4-0 lead in a loss Tuesday to the Dominican Republic. The Puerto Ricans ad-



Puerto Rico's Alex Rios (51) is mobbed by teammates after scoring the go ahead run on a base hit by Andy Gonzalez during the eighth inning of a second-round elimination game of the World Baseball Classic against Italy in Miami, Wednesday, March 13, 2013. Associated Press

vance to Friday's game against the winner of Thursday night's game between the United States and Dominican Republic. R.A. Dickey will start for the U.S. team, and Minnesota Twins right-hander Samuel Deduno starts for the Dominicans. Hiram Burgos (1-0) pitched 3 2-3 scoreless innings for Puerto Rico. Fernando Cabrera struck out Alex Liddi with a runner at first for his second save. Italy's Anthony Rizzo broke a scoreless tie with a three-run double in the fifth, and Puerto Rico trailed 3-1 going into the bottom of the eighth. Carlos Beltran led off with a walk, took third on a single by Yadier Molina and scored on Mike Aviles' groundout. Rios singled off Brian Sweeney (0-1) to put runners at the corners, and he took second when Luis Figueroa hit a sacrifice fly to make it 3-all. Rios came home on an infield single by Andy Gonzalez. With the retractable roof open at Marlins Park and the temperature in the 60s, fans in the crowd of 25,787 blew horns and whistles and banged drums to create a festive cacophony. Puerto Rico's Giancarlo Alvarado took a shut-out into the fifth. □

## Stefani

Continued from page 17

It was Stefani's turn at Innisbrook, where he played bogey-free on a Copperhead course that averaged more than two shots over par.

Harris English made double bogey on the last hole and still had a 68. Only 25 players in the 156-man field broke par.

Defending champion Luke Donald shot 70.

"It felt more like a major championship today," Steele said. "Usually the head at the U.S. Open is a few under after the first round at least, even if the winning score ends up being over par. To see it only be 3 under at this point is really a testament to how good the golf course is and how difficult the conditions are. Put that combo together and it's not a course that you fake it around. It's not a course you can get away with bad shots."



Shawn Stefani tees off on the 15th hole during the first round of the Tampa Bay Championship golf tournament on Thursday, March 14, 2013, in Palm Harbor, Fla. Associated Press

Donald, despite missing three birdie putts inside 12 feet, was at 4 under when he made bogey on the sixth hole because of a tee shot, was stuck near the back lip of a bunker on the par-3 eighth and then caught a flier out of the rough on the ninth hole and sent the ball over the green and into a bad section of a bunker that didn't have much sand.

"At one point I felt I should have been 5 or 6 under," Donald said. "To walk off with a 70 and play like that is hard to take. It was shame to cough up a couple of shots. Fifteen of those holes, I played really solid golf." Some of the early starters arrived in darkness, the temperatures cool and the wind already blowing. This hasn't been the best weather on the PGA Tour

this year. Already there was such high wind at Kapalua that the tournament didn't start until the fourth day. Fog wiped out an entire day in San Diego. Snow put the Match Play Championship one day behind. And temperatures were in the 40s early Sunday when the tour first arrived in Florida.

"I had a short rain vest that really wasn't warm enough," Ridings said. "But I got it done on the first couple of holes, and after about six holes I was OK." Temperatures were warmer in the afternoon for late starters such as Adam Scott, Geoff Ogilvy and Matt Kuchar. Steele thought he might be in trouble early on his third hole, the par-4 12th, with has a large pond in the middle of the hole. He worried about having too much club, eased off it and hit a hook that he figured was going into the water. □



# Kovalchuk goal caps Devils' 3-goal 1st period



New Jersey Devils' Ilya Kovalchuk (17), of Russia, celebrates his short-handed goal as Philadelphia Flyers' Simon Gagne skates away during the first period of an NHL hockey game on Wednesday, March 13, 2013, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press.

**The Associated Press**  
**NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)** — Ilya Kovalchuk capped New Jersey's three-goal first period with his NHL-leading fourth short-handed goal, helping the Devils beat the mistake-prone Philadelphia Flyers 5-2 on Wednesday night. Patrik Elias and Adam Henrique, who scored twice, also tallied in the opening period as the Devils beat the Flyers for the third time in three games this season. Andrei Loktionov had the prettiest goal for New Jer-

sey, with a toe-drag move that left Flyers goalie Ilya Bryzgalov at his mercy. Johan Hedberg had 23 saves for New Jersey, which has won two straight and three of four after a six-game losing streak. Jakub Voracek and Scott Hartnell scored for the Flyers, who have lost four of five.  
**FLAMES 5, RED WINGS 2**  
**CALGARY, Alberta (AP)** — Lee Stempniak scored the winning goal in the third period and added an assist in Calgary's victory over

Detroit. Stempniak broke a 2-2 tie 5:37 into the third on a beautiful set up from Curtis Glencross, who missed the previous two games because of a wrist injury. Glencross wheeled deep into the Detroit zone and zipped a pass to the uncovered Stempniak in the slot for his seventh goal of the season. Glencross added his ninth at 9:12, capitalizing on Valterri Filppula's turnover along the side boards. Blake Comeau followed with a goal 48 seconds later to make it 5-2. Alex Tanguay and Jay Bouwmeester also scored for

Calgary (10-11-4), which won its fifth in a row at home. Niklas Kronwall and Filppula had goals for Detroit (12-10-5).  
**CANADIENS 4, SENATORS 3, SO**  
**MONTREAL (AP)** — Alex Galchenyuk and Lars Eller scored shootout goals as Montreal won its fourth straight by beating Ottawa. Eller also scored in the first period and Brendan Gallagher and P.K. Subban added power-play goals in the second for Montreal (18-5-4), which played loosely in its first home game after a five-game trip. Carey Price

made 29 saves. Mika Zibanejad and Daniel Alfredsson had power-play goals for Ottawa (13-8-6), and Patrick Wiercioch also scored for the Senators, who are 1-2-4 in their last seven. Ottawa goalie Robin Lehner was sharp in the third period when Montreal had three power plays and stretched its shots advantage to 45-32. Wiercioch, a rookie defenseman, scored his third goal in five games to tie it 3-3. Wiercioch had no goals in his first 26 NHL games. Both teams earned two wins in the four-game season series. □

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## NBA Capsules

# Lebron James helps Heat to 20th consecutive win

### The Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — LeBron James scored 27 points as the Miami Heat rallied to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 98-94 on Wednesday night and become the fourth team to win at least 20 consecutive games in a season.

Dwyane Wade added 21 as the Heat needed big baskets over the final 2 minutes to top the Sixers for the milestone win.

Only three teams have won at least 20 consecutive games in the same season: the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers (33), the 2007-08 Houston Rockets (22) and the 1970-71 Milwaukee Bucks (20). The Washington Capitols also won 20 straight, spanning the end of the 1947-48 season and the start of the 1948-49 campaign.

Thaddeus Young had 24 points and 15 rebounds for the Sixers.

### GRIZZLIES 96, CLIPPERS 85

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Marc Gasol scored 21 points, Tayshaun Prince added 18 and surging Memphis got its 14th victory in 15 games. Mike Conley had 17 points and 11 assists, and Zach Randolph scored 13 points as the Grizzlies hung on in



Miami Heat's LeBron James goes up for a dunk in the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers, Wednesday, March 13, 2013, in Philadelphia. Associated Press

the fourth quarter of back-to-back games for their sixth straight victory. Memphis followed up last night's road win in Portland with a tenacious effort against the Clippers, who have lost three of five.

Memphis (44-19) is percentage points ahead of Los Angeles (45-21) for third place in the Western Conference, although the Clippers are the Pacific Division

leaders.

Chris Paul had 24 points and nine assists, and Blake Griffin added 22 points for the Clippers, who won the clubs' first two meetings this season.

### NUGGETS 117, KNICKS 94

**DENVER (AP)** — Carmelo Anthony's return to the Pepsi Center was a flop as Wilson Chandler scored 24 points and Denver blew

out ailing New York.

The Nuggets led by as many as 34 points on the way to winning their 10th straight game and 14th straight at home.

This one was such a laugh-er that their starters didn't play the fourth quarter.

Neither did Anthony, who left a couple of minutes into the second half when his balky right knee, which he acknowledged

Tuesday isn't getting better, acted up. He scored just nine points on 3-of-12 shooting.

Iman Shumpert led New York with 20 points.

### CELTICS 112, RAPTORS 88

**BOSTON (AP)** — Kevin Garnett scored 12 points, passing Jerry West for 15th on the NBA's career scoring list, and Paul Pierce joined him among the top 20 scorers in league history with 15 points to lead Boston.

Garnett needed four points to pass West (25,192 points) and Pierce entered the game nine points shy of equaling Charles Barkley (23,757) for 20th.

Garnett hit a bank shot with 10:03 left in the second quarter and received a standing ovation when his milestone was announced during a stoppage a few minutes later. Boston fans returned to their feet again in the third to recognize Pierce.

Jeff Green scored 20 to lead the Celtics, who ended a two-game slide and won their 10th straight at home.

Rudy Gay had 19 points and DeMar DeRozan added 17 points for the Raptors, who have lost seven of nine. □



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant lays on the floor after being injured in the final seconds of an NBA basketball game against the Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday, March 13, 2013, in Atlanta. The Hawks defeated the Lakers 96-92. Associated Press

### PAUL NEWBERRY

#### AP Sports Writer

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant severely sprained his left ankle Wednesday night after missing a game-leveling

shot in the closing seconds of a loss to the Atlanta Hawks.

Lakers spokesman John Black said Bryant is out indefinitely, just as a team that underachieved much

## Bryant out indefinitely with severe ankle sprain

of the season is playing its best basketball. The 96-92 loss ended a four-game winning streak and was just Los Angeles' third loss in the last 12 games.

The injury occurred with the Lakers trailing by two, after Bryant put up a baseline jumper that slid off the rim with 3 seconds remaining. As he came down, his left foot landed on defender Dahntay Jones' right foot, twisting awkwardly as Bryant crumpled to the court. No foul was called.

Bryant remained down for a few seconds then hobbled to the bench accompanied by the trainer. The 34-year-old Bryant seemed perturbed that he couldn't

stay in the game, but he had to sit since the Lakers were out of timeouts.

Kyle Korver hit two free throws to clinch Atlanta's win. Bryant could miss significant time. He said it's the worst sprain he's had in his 16-year career, and blamed Jones for sliding underneath him after he went up for the shot.

"First and foremost, the officials really need to protect shooters," Bryant said. "You just can't go into shooters. That's a dangerous play." He didn't say how long he might be out.

"I'll just do what I have to do," Bryant said.

Then, he delivered a warning to Jones and the

Hawks.

"I can't get my mind past the fact that I have to wait a year to get revenge," Bryant said, knowing the teams don't meet again in the regular season. "It's just a very, very dangerous play." Bryant has carried the Lakers in their turnaround and ranks among the NBA scoring leaders at 27.5 points per game. Despite scoring 31 points against the Hawks, it was largely an off night. He made just 11 of 33 shots and missed the biggest one of all with a chance to force overtime.

"He can't be Superman every day," coach Mike D'Antoni said. □



# NY AG: NFL must act on sexual orientation concern

MICHAEL GORMLEY

Associated Press

ALBANY, New York (AP)

— New York state's top legal official urged the NFL on Tuesday to investigate whether potential players were improperly asked about their sexual orientation during the league's annual skills exhibition for incoming college players, which he said would be illegal in New York.

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman asked National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell to schedule a meeting on the matter.

"We ask that the league immediately issue a statement that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of sexual orientation by league teams or players against potential recruits or players constitutes a violation of state, local and, in some cases, contractor law and will not be tolerated," Schneiderman said in a letter dated Thursday and released to news organizations. There has never been an openly gay player in any of North America's major

pro sports leagues, though a few athletes have come out after retirement. The question of NFL players being openly gay became a hot topic before this year's annual Super Bowl championship, when a San Francisco 49ers player made remarks about gays that were called offensive, for which he later apologized.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league was already looking into the issue and would discuss it at its meeting next week in Phoenix.

"Like all employers, our teams are expected to follow applicable federal, state and local employment laws," the NFL said in a Feb. 27 statement. "It is league policy to neither consider nor inquire about sexual orientation in the hiring process. In addition, there are specific protections in our collective bargaining agreement with the players that prohibit discrimination against any player, including on the basis of sexual orientation." It concluded: "Any team or employee that inquires

about impermissible subjects or makes an employment decision based on such factors is subject to league discipline."

Last month, Colorado tight end Nick Kasa told ESPN Radio in Denver that during interviews with team officials at the combine in Indianapolis: "(Teams) ask you, like, 'Do you have a girlfriend?' 'Are you married?' 'Do you like girls?'"

He did not identify who asked him.

Since then, Michigan's Denard Robinson and Michigan State's Le'Veon Bell each have indicated in radio interviews that they were asked similar questions.

Schneiderman reminded Goodell that discrimination based on sexual orientation is illegal in New York and in at least 23 other states where the NFL's 32 teams are based.

In February, DeMaurice Smith, the head of the NFL players association, said in a statement that, "I know that the NFL agrees that these types of questions violate the law, our CBA and player rights." □



In this March 11, 2013 file photo, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell takes questions during an NFL football news conference in New York.

Associated Press

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## Roundup/317

### Keane scores to help Galaxy into semifinals

CARSON, California (AP) — Robbie Keane scored late to help Los Angeles Galaxy qualify for the CONCACAF Champions League semifinals for the first time with a 4-1 win over Herediano on Wednesday. Santos Laguna capitalized on an early own goal by the Houston Dynamo in a 3-0 victory at Mexico City to reach the semifinals for the second straight year. At Carson, Omar Gonzalez headed in from a corner in the 18th minute and Jose Villarreal held off two defenders before curling in a shot from 22 yards to give the Galaxy a 2-0 lead in the 69th. Keane made it 3-0 in the

83rd and Jack McBean scored in stoppage time as the Galaxy secured a 4-1 aggregate victory over the Costa Rican club. "I think once we had that second goal, we killed them off. ... I don't think (Herediano) were brilliant, to be honest," said Keane, the Galaxy captain. "And they didn't look like they were going to score. It was quite a comfortable performance." Elias Aguilar scored in the 85th minute, Herediano's only goal in the home-and-away series after a 0-0 draw last week at Heredia, Costa Rica. "We have potential to be good," Herediano technical director Marvin

Solano said. "But we're not up to the tactical quality of the L.A. Galaxy for a tournament of this size." Los Angeles will play Mexico's Monterrey, the two-time defending champion, in early April. The Seattle Sounders face Mexico's Santos Laguna in the other semifinal. Santos lost the first match 1-0 at Houston but got in front early at home after Tally Hall's own goal in the 23rd minute and a goal from Herculez Gomez five minutes later. Marc Crosas finished the scoring in the 76th minute as the Dynamo lost for the fourth time in five visits to Mexico. □



# Study: Radiation for breast cancer can harm hearts

**MARILYNN MARCHIONE**  
**AP Chief Medical Writer**

Women treated with radiation for breast cancer are more likely to develop heart problems later, even with the lower doses used today, new research suggests. The risk comes from any amount of radiation, starts five years after treatment and lasts for decades, doctors in the UK found.

Patients shouldn't panic — radiation has improved cancer survival, and that is the top priority, doctors say. The chance of suffering a radiation-induced heart problem is fairly small. For example, 4 to 5 of every 100 women who are 50 years old and free of heart risks will develop a major cardiac problem by age 80, and radiation treatment would add one more case, the research suggests.

Women also can do a lot to cut their risk by keeping weight, cholesterol and blood pressure under control.

Still, the study reveals that the potential harm from radiation runs deeper than many medical experts may have realized, especially for women who already have cardiac risk factors such as diabetes.

And it comes amid greater awareness of overtreatment — that many women are being treated for cancers that would never

prove fatal, leading to trouble down the road such as heart disease.

Some chemotherapy drugs are known to harm the heart muscle, but the new study shows radiation can hurt arteries, making them prone to harden and clog and cause a heart attack. Women who receive both treatments have both types of risk.

The study "will raise the antenna" about the need to do more to prevent this, said Dr. David Slosky, a cardiologist at Vanderbilt University, one of the growing number of medical centers with special "cardio-oncology" programs for cancer survivors.

With today's lower radiation doses, "it is less of a problem, but it is not going away," he said.

The artery-related problems that the study tracked may be just the most visible of many risks because radiation also can cause valve, rhythm and other heart troubles, said Dr. Javid Moslehi. He is co-director of the cardio-oncology program at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Like cancer, heart disease develops after "a number of strikes that go against you," such as high cholesterol, he said. "The radiation is just another hit."

He wrote in an editorial that appears with the study in Thursday's New England

Journal of Medicine. British government agencies and private foundations paid for the research.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women — more than a million cases are diagnosed each year worldwide. When it's confined to the breast, most women get surgery

study, led by Dr. Sarah Darby of the University of Oxford in England, sought to measure that.

It involved 2,168 breast cancer patients from Sweden and Denmark diagnosed between 1958 and 2001 and treated with radiation. They included 963 women who suffered a

Researchers compared the women's radiation exposures using gray units, a measure of how much is absorbed by the body. They used hospital records and treatment plans to figure how many gray units actually reached each woman's heart and one artery often involved in



**A linear accelerator used to treat cancer is shown at a hospital in Johnstown, Pa. Women treated with radiation for breast cancer are more likely to develop heart problems later, even with the lower doses used today, troubling new research suggests. The study appears in the Thursday, March 14, 2013 New England Journal of Medicine.**  
(AP Photo/John Rucosky)

to remove the lump, followed by several weeks of radiation to kill any lingering cancer cells and sometimes hormone or chemotherapy.

What heart disease risks come from what specific doses isn't known. The new

heart attack, needed an artery-opening procedure or died of heart artery-related causes in the years after their radiation treatment. The other 1,205 were similar patients who did not develop these heart problems.

heart attacks. Most women treated today get doses that result in 1 to 5 gray units reaching the heart — more if the cancer is in the left breast. Patients in the study got an average of five gray units; the doses ranged from 1 to 28. □

## Drug for smallpox, a disease long gone, costing US millions

**DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.**

© 2013 New York Times

The United States government is buying enough of a new smallpox medicine to treat 2 million people in the event of a bioterrorism attack, and took delivery of the first shipment of it last week. But the purchase has set off a debate about the lucrative contract, with some experts saying the government is buying too much of the drug at too high a price.

A small company, Siga Technologies, developed the drug in recent years. Whether the \$463 million

order is a boondoggle or a bargain depends on which expert is talking. The deal will transform the finances of Siga, which is controlled by Ronald O. Perelman, a billionaire financier, philanthropist and takeover specialist.

Smallpox was eradicated by 1980 and the only known remaining virus is in government laboratories in the United States and Russia. But there have long been rumors of renegade stocks that could be sprayed in airports or sports stadiums. Experts say the virus could also be re-engi-

neered into existence in a sophisticated genetics lab. As part of its efforts to prepare for a possible bioterrorism attack, the government is paying more than \$200 for each course of treatment.

Siga argues that the price is a fair return on years of investment.

And Robin Robinson, director of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, part of the Department of Health and Human Services, the overseer of the contract for the drug, Arestvyr, defended the size of the

order and the price paid. He said that 2 million doses was the amount analysts predicted would be needed to contain a smallpox outbreak in a large city and that the whole country would require 12 million, along with vaccines.

The price, he said, was arrived at through federal purchasing guidelines and was "fair and reasonable" compared with the price of other commercial antiviral drugs, which he said ranged from \$108 to \$7,364.

But when stockpiling a smallpox drug was first

proposed in 2001 after the Sept. 11 and anthrax attacks, it was expected to cost only \$5 to \$10 per course, said Dr. Donald A. Henderson, who led a government advisory panel on biodefense in the wake of those attacks.

Dr. Richard H. Ebright, a bioweapons expert at Rutgers University, said there was little need for so much of the drug. "Is it appropriate to stockpile it? Absolutely," he said. "Is it appropriate to stockpile 2 million doses? Absolutely not. Twenty thousand seems like the right number." □



# Samsung refreshes iPhone-challenging Galaxy line

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Samsung Electronics is kicking up its competition with Apple with its new Galaxy S 4 smartphone, which has a larger, sharper screen than its predecessor, the best-selling S III.

Samsung trumpeted the much-anticipated phone's arrival Thursday at an event accompanied by a live orchestra while an audience of thousands watched the onstage theatrics. The Galaxy S 4, which crams a 5-inch (12.7-centimeter) screen into body slightly smaller than the S III's, will go sale globally in the April to June period.

In the U.S., it will be sold by all four national carriers — Verizon Wireless, AT&T, Sprint Nextel and T-Mobile USA — as well as by smaller ones US Cellular and Cricket.

Samsung didn't say what the phone will cost, but it can be expected to start at \$200 with a two-year contract in the U.S.

JK Shin, the executive in charge of Samsung's mobile communications division, promised the money would be well spent for a "life companion" that will "improve the way most people live every day."

That bold promise set the tone for the kind of flashy presentation associated with the showmanship of Apple, the company that Samsung has been trying to upstage. Apple contends Samsung has been trying to do it by stealing its ideas — an allegation has triggered bitter courtroom battles around the world.

In the last two years, Samsung has emerged as Apple's main competitor in the high-end smartphone market. At the same time, it has sold enough inexpensive low-end phones to edge out Nokia Corp. as the world's largest maker of phones.

The Galaxy line has been Samsung's chief weapon in the smartphone fight, and it has succeeded in making it a recognizable brand while competitors



In this Aug. 25, 2011 file photo, an attorney holds an Apple iPad, left, and a Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 at the regional court in Duesseldorf, Germany.

Associated Press

like Taiwan's HTC Corp. and South Korean rival LG have stumbled. Samsung has sold 100 million Galaxy S phones since they first came out in 2010. That's still well below the 268 million iPhones Apple has sold in the same period, but Samsung's sales rate is catching up.

Research firm Strategy Analytics said the Galaxy S III overtook Apple's iPhone 4S as the world's best-selling smartphone for the first time in the third quarter of last year, as Apple fans were holding off for the iPhone 5. The iPhone 5 took back the crown in the fourth quarter.

One way Samsung and other makers of Android phone have been one-upping Apple is by increasing the screen size. Every successive generation of the Galaxy line has been bigger than the one before. The S III sported a screen that measures 4.8 inches (12.19 centimeters) on the diagonal, already substantially larger than the iPhone 5's 4-inch (10.16-centimeter) screen. The S 4's screen is 56 percent larger than the iPhone's.

In a Wednesday interview, Apple Phil Schiller declined to discuss whether Apple is considering enlarging the screen on the next model of the iPhone, which is ex-

pected to be released later this year. He said Apple remains confident that the iPhone 5 is the most useful and elegant smartphone available, hailing it as "the most beautiful consumer electronics device ever created."

Samsung believes the S 4 will set the new standard. Apart from the larger screen and upgraded pro-

cessor, the S 4 has a battery that's 20 percent larger than that of the S III. Samsung didn't say if that translates into a longer battery life — the added capacity might be gobbled up by the bigger screen or other internal changes.

The S 4 comes with a built-in infra-red diode, so it can control an entertainment center as a universal re-

mote. This is a feature that has showed up in Android tablets before.

The S 4 comes with several new technologies intended to help users interact with the phone. For instance, the screen now senses fingers hovering just above the screen, and some applications react. The Mail application shows the first few lines of an email when a finger hovers above it in the list, and the Gallery application shows an expanded thumbnail.

Users can control some other applications by making gestures in the air above the phone. In the browser, you can command the screen to scroll up by swiping from top to bottom a few inches from the phone.

The Camera application can now use both the front and rear cameras simultaneously, inserting a small picture of the user even as he's capturing the scene in front of him.

When several S 4s are in close proximity, they can link up to play the same music, simultaneously — perfect for headphone dance parties. □

## ALMA world's top radio telescope launches in Chile

Associated Press

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** —

The world's biggest radio telescope is being launched in a plateau high above Chile's Atacama desert.

The Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array, or ALMA, will search for clues about the dawn of the cosmos — from the coldest gases and dust where galaxies are formed to the energy produced by the Big Bang. Most of the 66 radio antennas will be inaugurated Wednesday in an official ceremony.

ALMA also reaches farther than any other radio telescope and has captured images different from anything seen before by visi-



In this picture released by Chile's Presidential Press Office, President Sebastian Pinera, third left, tours the installations of the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array, or ALMA, in the Atacama desert, in northern Chile, Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

Associated Press

ble-light and infrared telescopes.

The \$1.5 billion project is jointly funded by the United States, Canada,

Japan and Europe. It is an engineering triumph that launches Chile to the forefront of ground-based space exploration. □



# Dow rises 10 days running, S&P 500 nears record

**MATTHEW CRAFT**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Dow Jones industrial average has reached another milestone, recording its longest winning streak since 1996. The index rose for the tenth straight day Thursday, gaining 83.86 points to close at 14,539.14. That's an increase of 0.6 percent. The last time the Dow knocked out 10 straight days of gains was November 1996. Back then, Internet companies were still lining up to go public and President Bill Clinton had just won another term in the White House. "It's just a good run," said Dan Greenhaus, chief global strategist at the brokerage BTIG. "And it speaks to optimism about the future." Encouraging news on jobs

gave the market an early lift. The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed within two points of its all-time high reached in October 2007. The S&P 500 index gained 8.71 points to 1,563.23, a gain of 0.6 percent. Signs that the economic recovery is gaining strength

have propelled the market higher since the beginning of March. Last month, the unemployment rate dipped to 7.7 percent, the lowest level since December 2008. Adding to evidence that the job market is improving, fewer Americans sought

unemployment benefits last week.

Record corporate profits and reassurances from Federal Reserve officials that they plan to keep interest rates at historically low levels have also helped push stocks higher. U.S. retail spending increased in February at the fastest pace in five months. That came despite higher payroll taxes kicking in at the beginning of the year.

"We've been getting some really good economic statistics: jobless claims today and retail sales yesterday," said Doug Cote, chief market strategist for ING U.S. Investment Management. "And that's positive."

The gains were broad on Thursday, though slight. All 10 industrial groups in the S&P 500 rose, led by energy companies. The Nasdaq

composite rose 13.81, or 0.4 percent, to 3,258.93.

MGM Resorts International's stock gained 7 percent after its biggest shareholder, the financier Kirk Kerkorian, requested permission to raise his stake in MGM to a quarter of its shares. MGM owns the Bellagio, Mandalay Bay and other casinos on the Las Vegas Strip.

Analysts say the stock market's surge this year will likely convince more people to move cash into stocks. The Dow is up 11 percent this year, the S&P 500 is up 9.6 percent.

So far, retail investors appear unsure. They put money in U.S. stock funds to start the year, but have withdrawn it for the last two weeks, according to a report out Wednesday from the Investment Company Institute. □



**Bagpiper Joe Brady plays on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange trading floor, in honor of St. Patrick's Day, before the closing bell, Thursday, March 14, 2013. The Dow Jones industrial average has reached another milestone, recording its longest winning streak since 1996.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

# Fed: JPMorgan, Goldman need better capital plans

**C. REXRODE**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — JPMorgan Chase and Goldman Sachs need better plans for coping with a severe recession, the Federal Reserve said Thursday, giving the banks until September to revise them. The announcement came as part of the Fed's so-called "stress tests," its annual check-up of 18 of America's big banks. The government runs the tests to see how the banks would

fare in a severe recession. As a result of the tests, it also tells each bank whether it's allowed to raise its dividend, the quarterly payout it gives to stockholders, or buy back more of its own shares.

The Fed said that JPMorgan and Goldman were allowed to start any dividend increases or share buybacks they may have asked for. That privilege would be withdrawn only if they didn't submit new capital plans that satisfy

the Fed.

Ally Financial and BB&T Corp. fared worse: The Fed forbade them from going through with any dividend increases and share buybacks they may have asked for.

But overall, the Fed approved requests outright from 14 of the 18 banks it was examining, including Citigroup, Wells Fargo, Morgan Stanley and Bank of America.

Dividends and share buybacks are important to or-

dinary investors, and banks. The banks know that their investors suffered big losses in the financial crisis, and are eager to mollify them. Some stockholders, especially retirees, rely on dividends for a key portion of their income.

Buybacks are also aimed at helping stockholders. By reducing a company's number of outstanding shares, earnings per share can increase.

The Fed didn't specify what each bank had asked

for: dividend increases, share buybacks or both. The banks are allowed to release that information, but don't have to. For instance, Citigroup and Bank of America both said they got permission to buy back shares, but didn't ask to raise their dividends. Both pay a quarterly dividend of a penny, or four cents a year.

The stress tests assumed that the banks would raise dividends and share buybacks as requested. □

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## STREET BRIEFS

### BMW profits rise: 'most successful year' ever in 2012

**FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)** — German automaker BMW AG says net profit increased 4.4 percent last year to €5.1 billion (\$6.6 billion), helped by big sales jump in Asia and a better market in the United States. The company, based in Munich, said Thursday that unit sales rose 31 percent in Asia, including a 40 percent rise in China excluding Hong Kong. Sales in the U.S. climbed 14 percent. Sales of the 1-series compact increased 28 percent while the mainstay 3-series sedan saw a 6 percent rise. Overall revenues rose 12 percent to €76.8 billion. The company said profits were held back by investments in new technologies and increased personnel costs. Still, CEO Norbert Reithofer called it "the most successful year in BMW Group corporate history." □

### Dollar continues gains on positive US economic data

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The dollar is continuing to gain against world currencies following the latest signs that the U.S. economy is strengthening. The Labor Department reported that applications for unemployment benefits fell to a five-year low last week. The euro declined to \$1.2948 from \$1.2961 late Wednesday as European Union leaders gathered for a summit beset by anti-austerity protesters. The dollar rose to 96.34 Japanese yen from 96.10 yen. Japan's lower house of Parliament endorsed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's choice to lead the nation's central bank. Haruhiko Kuroda is expected to ease Japan's monetary policy. The British pound was one of the few major currencies rising against the dollar. It increased to \$1.4992 from \$1.4914. □

## US wholesale prices rise 0.7 pct. on gas spike

**C. S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A measure of U.S. wholesale prices rose in February by the most in five months, pushed higher by more expensive gas and pharmaceuticals. But outside those increases, inflation was mild. The producer price index grew a seasonally adjusted 0.7 percent in February from January, the Labor Department said Thursday. That's up from 0.2 percent in the previous month. Wholesale gas prices increased 7.2 percent. Even with the increase,

wholesale prices have risen just 1.7 percent in the past 12 months. That's below the Federal Reserve's 2 percent inflation target. Mild inflation gives the Fed more latitude to continue with its aggressive policies to spur more economic growth.

The index measures the cost of goods before they reach consumers. Wholesale prices are what manufacturers and farmers receive for their products from retailers and distributors.

Excluding volatile food and energy costs, core wholesale prices rose only



Workers at a floral import company prepare flowers for distribution to flower resellers throughout the country, in Miami. (AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

0.2 percent last month. In the past 12 months, core prices have increased 1.7 percent. □

## Weekly jobless applications fall to 332,000

**C. S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Fewer Americans sought unemployment aid last week, reducing the average number of weekly applications last month to a five-year low. The drop shows that fewer layoffs are strengthening the job market.

The Labor Department said Thursday that applications fell 10,000 to a seasonally adjusted 332,000. That cut

the four-week average to 346,750, the lowest since March 2008, just several months after the Great Recession began.

The report "provides further evidence of a gradual strengthening in labor market conditions," Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said in a note to clients.

Applications are a proxy for layoffs. They have fallen nearly 13 percent since November.

At the same time, net hiring has picked up. Employers have added an average of 200,000 jobs per month from November through February, up from about 150,000 a month in the previous four months.

The unemployment rate fell to a four-year low of 7.7 percent in February from 7.9 percent the previous month. About 5.6 million people received benefits in the week ended Feb. 23, the latest data available.

That's about 220,000 more than the previous week.

The improvement in the job market shows employers aren't laying off more workers because of worries about higher taxes or government spending cuts.

In January, Social Security taxes rose two percentage points. Someone earning \$50,000 has about \$1,000 less to spend in 2013. A household with two high-paid workers has up to \$4,500 less. □

## US current account trade deficit narrows



Containers are unloaded from cargo ships at APM Terminals in the Port of Los Angeles. (AP Photo/Nick Ut)

**M. CRUTSINGER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. current account trade deficit narrowed in the final three months of 2012. But that didn't prevent the deficit for the entire year from climbing to the highest level in four years.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the current account

deficit in the October-December quarter narrowed to \$110.4 billion, down 1.8 percent from the previous quarter. The improvement reflected gains in Americans' earnings on their foreign investments and stronger earnings on service trade, a category that covers such things as airline travel.

For the year, the current

account deficit widened to \$475 billion, a 1.9 percent increase from 2011. It was the largest annual imbalance since 2008.

The current account is the broadest gauge of trade. It tracks not only the sale of goods and services but also investment flows. □

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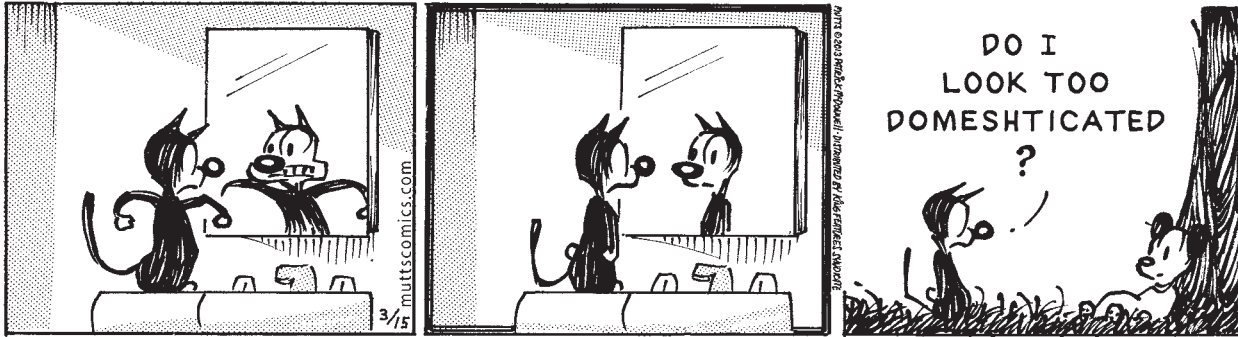
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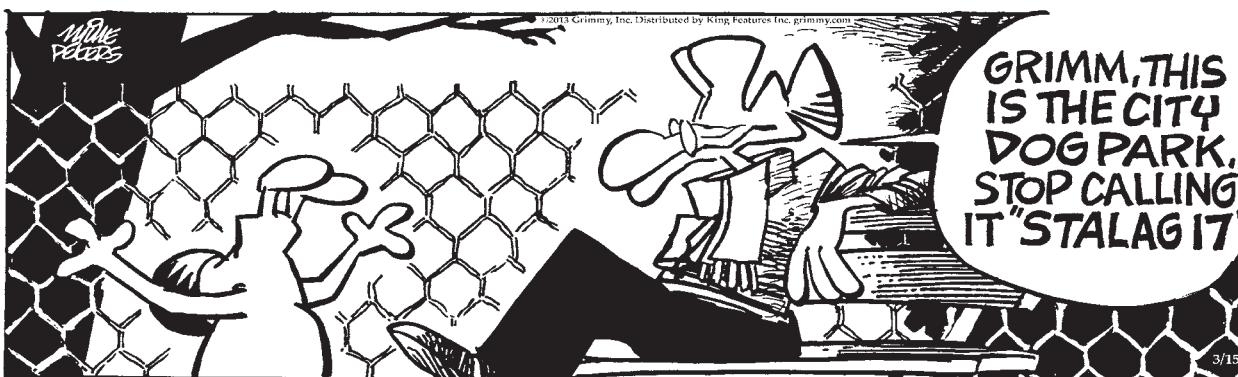
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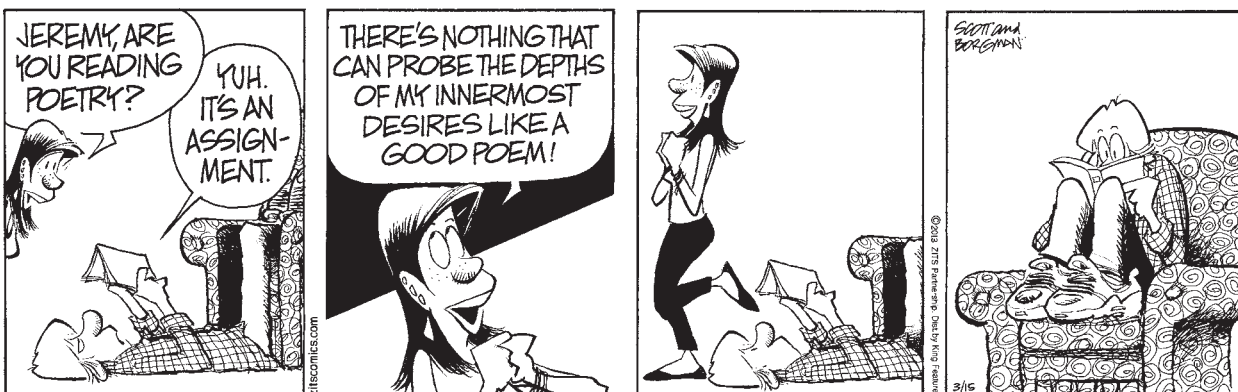
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		8	5		1	4		
2				4			9	
5		8		3		7		
	4		5		6			
8		7		4		2		
4			1				3	
	3	6		2	1			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	2	9	3	1	6	7	8	4
6	4	8	9	2	7	3	1	5
3	1	7	5	8	4	6	9	2
9	5	1	2	4	3	8	6	7
7	8	2	6	5	9	1	4	3
4	6	3	8	7	1	5	2	9
1	7	5	4	9	8	2	3	6
8	3	4	7	6	2	9	5	1
2	9	6	1	3	5	4	7	8

## ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ Kat; wafer candy bar
- 4 Records
- 9 Hee-haw
- 13 Singles
- 15 Maxim; proverb
- 16 Tiny bit
- 17 1/12 of a foot
- 18 Breathing organs
- 19 Eccentric
- 20 Brazen
- 22 Mischief makers
- 23 Half-quart
- 24 Actor McKellen
- 26 Race at top speed for a short distance
- 29 Most bogus
- 34 Grumpy fellow
- 35 Artist's purchase
- 36 By way of
- 37 Engagement symbol
- 38 Marathons
- 39 Didn't float
- 40 Pretense
- 41 Long parts of giraffe bodies
- 42 Police officer's identification
- 43 Voice mail recordings
- 45 Indian dollars
- 46 Grassy area
- 47 Rings a \_\_\_; sounds familiar
- 48 Actor Alan
- 51 Very exciting
- 56 Lunch, for one
- 57 Josh with
- 58 Shipshape
- 60 Run \_\_\_; collide with
- 61 Slugger Hank
- 62 Strong wind
- 63 Yellow cheese from Holland
- 64 Used up
- 65 Galloped

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13			14	15				16			
17				18				19			
20				21				22			
23				24				25			
26	27	28		29	30			31	32	33	
34				35				36			
37				38				39			
40				41				42			
43				44				45			
46				47				48			
49	50			51	52	53		54	55		
56				57				58		59	
60				61				62			
63				64				65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/15/13

## Thursday's Puzzle Solved

3	Georgia ___; univ. in Atlanta	SHED	RAILS	JUST
4	Inborn ability	LIMA	ODDER	ASIA
5	Big person	ADAM	SALES	CLERK
6	Window glass	BEN	WAGE	HORSE
7	Breakfast order, often	CHORE	PIPP	
8	Regular meetings	FRIARY	POLYPS	
9	Skimpy beach attire	RAPID	GRUEL	AAH
10	Kitchen or den	OVAL	FAULT	TIME
11	Perched upon	GET	BAGEL	CANOE
12	Long-haired oxen	LEARNS	JACKAL	
14	Molding	DIG	TUTTI	
21	Soft-furred weasel cousin	BOSUN	HOSS	LBJ
25	Fire ___; stinging insect	ADOLESCENT	PLEA	
26	"Get lost!"	BOOT	CORGI	HEAR
27	Cost	ARTS	INSAN	IRKS
28	Talks wildly			
29	Loads a suitcase			
30	Rushes			
31	Stay away from fish			
32	Burn the edges of			

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3/15/13

- 33 \_\_\_ off; leaves
- 35 Walk the floor
- 38 Sailing races
- 39 Young tree
- 41 Scottish "no"
- 42 Cow's mate
- 44 Zigzag ski race
- 45 Give in
- 47 Buffalo
- 48 French girlfriend
- 49 Give for a time
- 50 Facts & figures
- 52 Pile
- 53 Uncommon
- 54 Approach
- 55 Celebration
- 59 Morning hour





# Classifieds

## Census: Population has stopped falling in the Bronx

**SAM ROBERTS**

© 2013 New York Times

**NEW YORK** – Danielle Jackson has lived all over New York City since she moved from New Jersey in 1998 to attend New York University. Last May, she moved from Flatbush to the South Bronx, where she had opened a photography gallery a year earlier.

"My rent was being raised, I wanted a bigger apartment and the commute was killing me," she recalled. Jackson found a two-bedroom apartment in Mott Haven for \$50 less a month than she would have paid to renew her lease in Brooklyn for less space.

"I love where I live, I can get everywhere on the 6 train and I walk to work and for the first time I have real neighbors," she said. "I know the Bronx has been maligned and completely misunderstood by outsiders, but what's kept the Bronx so great is that there is a community."

Jackson, 32, personifies a remarkable demographic plateau revealed Thursday by new census figures. For the first time in decades, people are no longer abandoning the Bronx. Not only did the borough's population rise, but more people moved there in the year ending July 1, 2012, than left, according to the estimates.

While the net gain in migration was only 115, it contrasts starkly with annual losses that were regularly in the thousands and neared 20,000 two decades ago. "You've got to go back to the postwar period in the 1940s when we had a surge of people moving into the Bronx," said Joseph J. Salvo, director of the population division of the city's Planning Department.

Apartment buildings on the Grand Concourse have

been refurbished; some South Bronx neighborhoods have boomed, luring a diverse influx of young professionals; and the foreign-born population – mainly Dominicans moving from Upper Manhattan as well as Mexicans – has grown. It is a far cry from the stock but now badly dated images of vast tracts of abandoned buildings or empty lots. "It's pretty much the last frontier," said Ed Garcia Conde, a Bronx real estate consultant.

"It's the last affordable place. But I wouldn't say it's been gentrified to the point where people are being pushed out. Thousands of new apartments came on line."

Overcrowding is another reason for the gains, said Gregory Lobo Jost, deputy

director of the nonprofit University Neighborhood Housing Program. "We have a lot of people who pay more than half their income in rent, so there's pressure to double up and make the rent affordable," he said. "There are a lot of people coming from other parts of the city where they're being priced out." Overall, New York City's population was estimated by the census last July at 8,336,697, a surge of 161,564 since 2010 – nearly as many as the city gained in the entire preceding decade.

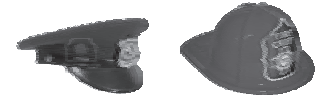
The city's growth was achieved by another telling milestone: Since 2010, the number of people moving to the city has exceeded the number of New Yorkers leaving. The net increase

from migration was 12,200. "We haven't seen this since 1950," Salvo said. "What we have now is a pattern that is really new." Kenneth M. Johnson, senior demographer at the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire, said the city remained a migration magnet for "20-somethings, because they weren't tied down to houses" while older New Yorkers had been "frozen in place by the recession." Brooklyn was the fastest-growing borough, its population rising 2.4 percent, or by 60,900 people; it also registered a net gain from migration. After years of robust growth, Staten Island recorded what might have been its first population decline – even if only a minuscule 219 residents. □

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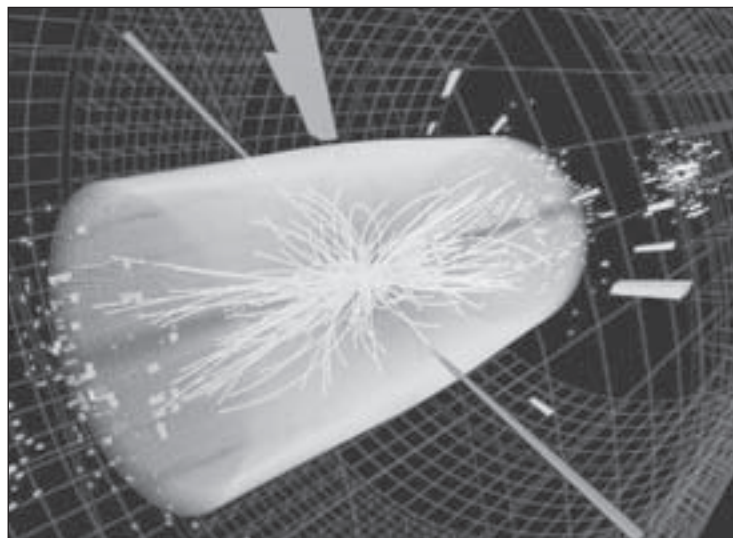
# Physicists say they have found a Higgs boson

**JOHN HEILPRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**GENEVA (AP)** — It helps solve one of the most fundamental riddles of the universe: how the Big Bang created something out of nothing 13.7 billion years ago.

In what could go down as one of the great Eureka! moments in physics — and win somebody the Nobel Prize — scientists said Thursday that after a half-century quest, they are confident they have found a Higgs boson, the elusive subatomic speck sometimes called the “God particle.”

The existence of the particle was theorized in 1964 by the British physicist Peter Higgs to explain why matter has mass. Scientists believe the particle acts like molasses or snow: When other tiny basic building blocks pass through it, they stick together, slow down and form atoms. Scientists at CERN, the Geneva-based European Organization for Nuclear Research, announced in July that they had found



**This undated image made available by CERN shows a typical candidate event including two high-energy photons whose energy is measured in the CMS electromagnetic calorimeter. The lines are the measured tracks of other particles produced in the collision.**

**Associated Press**

something that looked like the Higgs boson, but they weren't certain, and they needed to go through the data and rule out the possibility it wasn't something else.

On Thursday, they said they believe they got it right.

“To me it is clear that we are dealing with a Higgs boson, though we still have a long way to go to know what kind of Higgs boson

it is,” said Joe Incandela, a physicist who heads one of the two main teams at CERN, each involving about 3,000 scientists.

Whether or not it was a Higgs boson had to be demonstrated by how it interacts with other particles and its quantum properties, CERN said. The data “strongly indicates that it is a Higgs boson,” it said.

The discovery explains what once seemed unexplainable and still is a bit hard for the average person to comprehend. But it means the key theory that

scientists use to explain everything works — for now, at least.

Its discovery could be a strong contender for the Nobel, though it is uncertain whether the prize would go to the 83-year-old Peter Higgs and the others who first proposed the theory, or to the thousands of scientists who found it, or to all of them.

Finding it wasn't easy. It took more than two decades, thousands of scientists and mountains of data from trillions of colliding protons.

And it needed the world's biggest atom smasher — CERN's Large Hadron Collider, which cost \$10 billion to build and run in a 17-mile (27-kilometer) tunnel beneath the Swiss-French border — to produce the extreme surge of energies simulating those 1 trillionth to 2 trillionths of a second after the Big Bang.

The Higgs boson is so elusive that only about one collision per trillion will produce one of them in the collider.

CERN said it is open question whether this is the Higgs boson that was expected in the original formulation, or the lightest of several Higgses predicted in some

theories that go beyond that model.

“We found a new particle and we want to know how it behaves, and maybe it behaves the way it was predicted in 1964, maybe it's a little bit different,” said physicist Sean Carroll of the California Institute of Technology, who isn't involved in the research.

Finding a Higgs more or less as expected is actually a bit deflating, Carroll said, because physicists had also hoped that an unexpected type of Higgs might open windows into yet more mysteries of the universe.

“Scientists always want to be wrong in their theories. They always want to be surprised,” he said. “It's a bittersweet victory when your theory turns out to be right, because it means, on the one hand, you're right, that's nice, but on the other hand, you haven't learned anything new that's surprising.”

Some of the remaining mysteries including why gravity is so weak and what is the dark matter that is believed to make up a large part of the total mass in the universe, said Patty McBride, who heads a center at the Fermilab in Chicago. □

## A closer look at the Higgs boson

**FRANK JORDANS**  
**JOHN HEILPRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**GENEVA (AP)** — Scientists working at the world's biggest atom smasher near Geneva have announced they are confident that the new subatomic particle discovered last summer is a version of the long-sought Higgs boson. The particle bears key attributes of the so-called “God par-

ticle” that was theorized nearly a half-century ago as fundamental to the creation of the universe. It took thousands of scientists from around the world to hunt the particle in the atom-smasher operated by CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

**WHAT EXACTLY IS THE GOD PARTICLE?**

Everything is made of at-

oms, inside of which are electrons, protons and neutrons. And those, in turn, are made of quarks and other subatomic particles. Scientists have wondered how these tiny building blocks of the universe acquire mass. Without mass, the particles wouldn't hold together — and there would be no matter.

One theory proposed by British physicist Peter Higgs and teams in Belgium and the United States nearly a half-century ago is that a new particle must be creating a “sticky” energy field that acts as a drag on other particles. The atom-smashing experiments have now confirmed that this particle exists in a form that is similar to — but perhaps not exactly like — what was proposed. □

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This March 9, 2012 file photo shows Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band performing at the Apollo Theater in New York. Bruce Springsteen is returning to headline the London Hard Rock Calling festival, a year after authorities pulled the plug on his duet with Paul McCartney for violating a curfew. Springsteen will headline the second night of the two-day festival on June 30, 2013.

## The Boss kicks off Australian tour with a warning

ROD McGUIRK  
Associated Press

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)** — Bruce Springsteen has kicked off his Australian tour with a warning about his political influence over national economics. Springsteen and his E Street Band opened their Wrecking Ball Tour on Thursday to enthusiastic reviews in Brisbane, the hometown of Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer Wayne Swan. Swan revealed in a speech last year that The Boss had long been his political inspiration. Swan, named by banking magazine Euromoney as the world's finance minister of the year for 2011 for his role in steering Australia clear of recession during the global economic meltdown, said the U.S.-born working-class hero's music railing against inequality echoed his own public battle against Australian billionaire mining tycoons who oppose his tax reforms. When told at a press conference Thursday that Swan had cited his musical idol as an influence on his government's economic policies, Springsteen urged caution. "Really? You better watch

out there," Springsteen joked. "I'm not sure how good I am with my money." He added, "I hope it's been a positive influence, that's all I can say." Swan is attending the final two-week session of Parliament before he releases his annual budget blueprint on May 14. He has revealed that the annual ritual involves him playing Springsteen's hit single "Born to Run." Swan said Springsteen's 1975 breakthrough album, as well as subsequent albums "Darkness on the Edge of Town," "The River," "Born in the U.S.A." and "Nebraska," talked about the shifting foundations of the U.S. economy before the subject became topical. "If I could distill the relevance of Bruce Springsteen's music to Australia, it would be this: Don't let what has happened to the American economy happen here," Swan said. Swan said Springsteen is also the favorite musician of Prime Minister Julia Gillard. Swan's office could not immediately comment on Thursday on whether he intended to see a concert while Springsteen is in Australia. □

## Carrey gets serious about career, grandparenthood

MICHAEL CIDONI LENNOX  
AP Entertainment Writer  
LAS VEGAS (AP) —

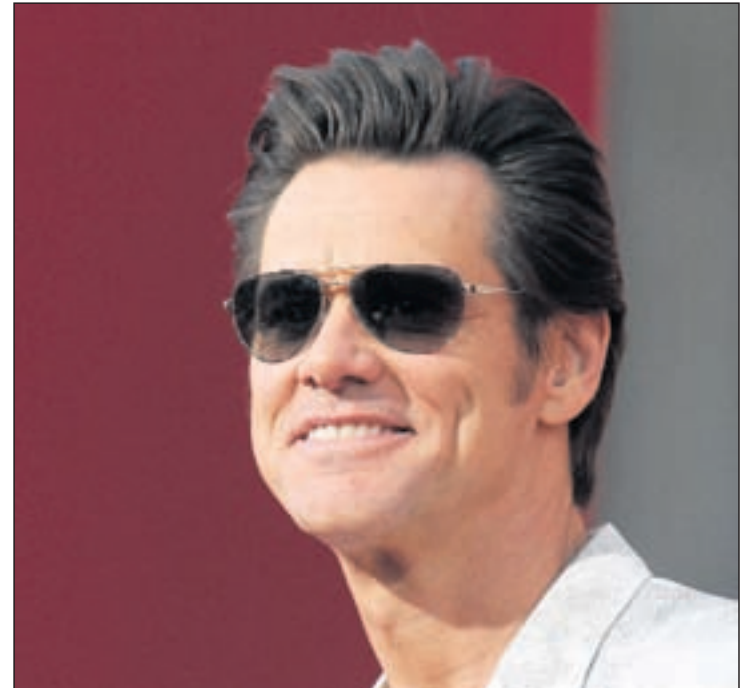
Jim Carrey has delivered more than his share of great performances. But this undercover act wasn't one of them.

While receiving press in a Las Vegas hotel room, he was wearing large sunglasses and a sparking gold patchwork blazer.

"This is my Vegas camouflage," he joked. "If I walk around town in this (jacket) no one can see me. It's fantastic. It's the way I blend in in this town. Isn't it nice? I mugged Gustav Klimt," Carrey said, referring to the Austrian painter whose early 20th century works featured gold galore.

That's about as funny as Carrey would get on this day in Sin City promoting "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone," opening Friday. The Vegas-set comedy is about a burned-out old-school magician (Steve Carell) threatened by a newcomer (Carrey) who'll literally risk his life to wow audiences and attain fame.

"This is the guy with the Christ complex," Carrey explained. "This is the guy who looks at other people like he knows everything and they know nothing, and their problems amuse



Actor Jim Carrey arrives at the world premiere of the feature film "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone" at the TCL Chinese Theatre on Monday, March 11, 2013 in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

him."

It is perhaps the darkest character that Carrey has ever delivered in an out-and-out comedy.

"I could never be the type of person who thinks, 'Now this works. So, I'm just going to do this forever,'" Carrey said.

It's just the latest transformation for Carrey, who last year had a solo exhibition of his paintings and now has a children's book on the way — something Carrey said he did in part for his grandson, born to Carrey's daughter Erin in February 2010.

"Sometimes when you go to a movie, that can be that. But when you read your kid a story, that is just a little slice of heaven," he said.

Carrey's also making music, having teamed with indie-rock band The Eels for his new single, "Cold Dead Hand," which has an anti-gun theme. "Charlton Heston would not like it," Carrey commented.

"You know, I'm always risking it and pushing it," Carrey said. "I've got nowhere to go. I have no other options. I don't have a trade." □

## Colin Trevorrow to direct 'Jurassic Park 4'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Colin Trevorrow is taking the reins of "Jurassic Park."

Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment announced Thursday that the 36-year-old director will helm "Jurassic Park 4."

Trevorrow made his feature film directorial debut with last year's "Safety Not Guaranteed."

Steven Spielberg is executive producing "Jurassic Park 4," which is set for release in 3-D on June 13, 2014. The script was written

by "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" screenwriters Rick Jaffa and Amanda Silver.

The first two "Jurassic Park" films were directed by Spielberg, while the third installment was helmed by "Captain America" director Joe Johnston.

The dinosaur franchise has grossed \$1.9 billion at the box office worldwide since the first film was released in 1993.

The original "Jurassic Park" will be rereleased in theaters April 5 in 3-D. □



In this Jan. 22, 2012 file photo, Director Colin Trevorrow poses at the premiere of "Safety Not Guaranteed" during the 2012 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press





In this June 29, 2012 file photo, singer Michael Buble and his wife, Argentine TV actress Luisana Lopilato, pose at the Nordoff Robbins 02 Silver Clef Awards at London Hilton, in London.  
Associated Press

## Future dad Buble not worried about album sales

**MICHAEL CIDONI LENNOX**  
AP Entertainment Writer  
LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Michael Buble has sold millions of albums, but as he readies the release of his newest project, he's less concerned with his future sales, thanks to his wife's pregnancy.

"I'm nervous and excited, and truly I think it's given me great perspective," the singer said at the music video shoot for his new single, "It's a Beautiful Day."

"I used to worry about how the single would do and how the record would sell. And the truth is, I love this record. I'm so proud of it. But, at the end of the day, if it sells 10 million or 10 copies, I've got bigger fish to fry," he continued. "I've got a wife and a kid I love very much."

Buble married Argentine actress Luisana Lopilato in 2011. They announced in January they're expecting their first child, and his publicist confirmed Thursday the couple are expecting a son.

Most of Buble's albums

have reached multiplatinum status, and his last three releases have hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200 albums chart, including the triple platinum "Christmas," the second best-selling album of 2011 behind Adele's "21."

His new album, "To Be Loved," will be released April 23. It finds the Grammy winner covering songs by the Bee Gees, Dean Martin and Elvis Presley, as well as collaborating with Reese Witherspoon. It also features four original songs, including a tribute to his wife called "Close Your Eyes." "It's a Beautiful Day" is about a man who is happy because his failing romantic relationship has finally ended. So who inspired the song?

"Harry Styles," the 37-year-old Buble replied jokingly, referring to the One Direction band member who dated Taylor Swift.

"Harry Styles," Buble said again, feigning heartbreak. "He left me for Taylor. I'll be writing about her, too, soon." □

## Jillian Michaels weighs in with a weight-loss book



This Jan. 6, 2012 file photo shows fitness guru Jillian Michaels in New York.  
Associated Press

**FRAZIER MOORE**  
AP Television Writer  
NEW YORK (AP) —

Jillian Michaels orders two eggs over easy with a smidgeon of oil and two slices of dry toast.

And coffee.

Coffee?! "Two strong cups, 400 milligrams, fights pancreatic cancer," she says, "plus Alzheimer's, Type 2 diabetes and improves cognitive functions."

Not that Michaels is a health-nut goodie-goodie. "I still drink a little bit of alcohol," she confides. "And I haven't been to the gym in five days!"

No wonder. There's this grueling book tour on top of an always-heavy workload, plus the routine demands of parenting a 3-year-old daughter and an 11-month-old son who, along with her partner, Heidi Rhoades, have come with her on this recent New York visit.

But all is never lost, says Michaels, in the battle to lose weight and be healthy. "Even if you're just standing while you're talking on the phone," she offers, "you can burn up to 300 calories in a day."

That's the sort of forgiving advice found in her latest book, "Slim for Life: My Insider Secrets to Simple, Fast and Lasting Weight Loss" (Harmony Books).

"It's my softest approach to weight loss," says Michaels, a wellness coach to whom the word "soft" is seldom applied.

After all, she is famous as the drill-sergeant trainer on NBC's "The Biggest Loser," a 5-foot-2-inch force of nature who doesn't hesitate to throw her tautly muscled weight around.

But during this recent breakfast she seems different from her "Loser" persona. Clad in jeans, sweat shirt and Ugg boots, her hair pulled under a newsboy's cap, she could pass for half her 39 years. She is animated, high-rev. But no way overbearing.

"I wanted to write a book where you felt like I was sitting right there with you," she says, a vision of reassurance seated across the table, "providing a simple solution for every problem or complaint I've ever heard."

Fitness is too time-consuming, complicated, costly,

inconvenient, plus I'm hungry all the time — Michaels has heard every excuse from the audience for her website, weekly podcast and speaking engagements.

"I wanted to integrate the answers and knock down the myths and the fad diets," she says. "For every possible dieting dilemma that you could ever have, I provide umpteen amount of solutions. Pick one!"

In her book, every strategy comes with a point system scored from 1 (a "bonus" tip) to 3 (most effective and important). Totaling the strategies you're able to adopt can help predict your rate of weight loss, she says.

If some of this stuff gets a little technical (she prescribes workouts complete with calories-per-minute burned for each exercise), Michaels also packs the book with simple no-brainers: Eat before you head to the party so you're less tempted by those fatty hors d'oeuvres. Nix foods tagged with "danger words" like smothered, loaded, tender, deep-fried and creamy. □



## The Axis Of Ennui



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2013 New York Times

Because I have to generate two columns a week for you, Dear Reader, I spend some time hunting for new ideas on the conference circuit. When you are on that circuit, you are perpetually under the illusion that you are hearing from the exciting, fresh people who are about to change history.

You're hearing from, say, the brilliant technology entrepreneur Shai Agassi, who is starting a paradigm-shifting electric car company. You're hearing from some wizard with a new solar-panel technology, or some new social-networking entrepreneur. My main impression over the past five years is that the conference circuit capitalists who give fantastic presentations have turned out to be marginal to history while the people who are too boring and unfashionable to get invited to the conferences in the first place have actually changed the world under our noses.

Shai Agassi's company, Better Place, for example, has generated glowing magazine profiles, but it has managed to lose more than \$500 million while selling astoundingly few cars. He stepped down as the chief executive, and his replacement lasted only a few months. It turns out that the things that are sexy to politicians and paradigm-shifting to conference audiences are not necessarily attractive to consumers. Meanwhile, the anonymous drudges at American farming corporations are exporting \$135 billion worth of products every year and transforming the American Midwest. The unfashionable executive at petrochemical companies have been uprooting plants from places like Chile, relocating them to places like Louisiana, transforming economic prospects in the Southeast. Most important of all, the boring old oil and gas engineers have transformed the global balance of power.

By 2020, the United States will overtake Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil producer, according to the International Energy Agency. The U.S. has already overtaken Russia as the world's leading gas producer. Fuel has become America's largest export item. Within five years, according to a study by Citigroup, North America could be energy independent. "OPEC will find it challenging to survive another 60 years, let alone another

decade," Edward Morse, Citigroup's researcher, told CNBC. All of this was accomplished by people who exist largely beyond the reach of the lavalier-mike circuit.

Joel Kotkin identified America's epicenters of economic dynamism in a study for the Manhattan Institute. It is like a giant arc of unfashionableness. You start at the Dakotas where unemployment rates are at microscopic levels. You drop straight down through the energy belts of the Great Plains until you hit Texas. Occasionally, you turn left to touch the spots where fertilizer output and other manufacturing plants are on the rebound, like the Third Coast areas in Louisiana, Mississippi and Northern Florida.

Vanity Fair still ranks the tech and media moguls and calls it The New Establishment, but, as Kotkin notes, the big winners in the current economy are the "Material Boys," the people who grow grain, drill for fuel and lay pipeline. The growing parts of the world, meanwhile, are often the commodity belts, resource-rich places with good rule of law like Canada, Norway and Australia. Daniel Yergin, an energy guru, noted in congressional testimony last month that the revolution in oil and gas extraction has led to 1.7 million new jobs in the United States alone, a number that could rise to 3 million by 2020. The shale revolution added \$62 billion to federal revenues in 2012. At the same time, carbon-dioxide emissions are down 13 percent since 2007, as gas is used instead of coal to generate electricity.

Most of us have grown up in a world in which we assumed that energy was scarce, or even running out. We could now be entering a world of relatively cheap energy abundance.

Most of us have grown up in a world in which oil states in the Middle East could throw their weight around because of their grip on the economy's life source. But the power of petrostates is on the wane. Yergin argues that the oil sanctions against Iran may not have been sustainable if not for the new alternate sources of supply.

We've grown accustomed to despotic regimes in Russia and Venezuela that live off oil and gas wealth. But those regimes are facing hard times, too. Gazprom is already offering roughly 10 percent discounts on existing contracts. The Nigerians and Venezuelans may find it hard to compete. People in China and elsewhere are wondering if the fracking revolution means that the 21st century will be another North American century, just like the last one. What are the names of the people who are leading this shift? Who is the Steve Jobs of shale? Magazine covers don't provide the answers. Whoever they are, they don't seem hungry for celebrity or good with the splashy project launch. They are strong economically, but they are culturally off the map.

This revolution will not be plenaried. □



## Mr. Obama Goes To Israel



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN  
© 2013 New York Times

In case you haven't heard, President Barack Obama leaves for Israel next week. It is possible, though, that you haven't heard because it is hard for me to recall a less-anticipated trip to Israel by a U.S. president. But there is a message in that empty bottle: Little is expected from this trip — not only because little is possible, but because, from a narrow U.S. point of view, little is necessary. Quietly, with nobody announcing it, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has shifted from a necessity to a hobby for U.S. diplomats. Like any hobby — building model airplanes or knitting sweaters — some days you work on it, some days you don't. It depends on your mood, but it doesn't usually matter when that sweater gets finished. Obama worked on this hobby early in his first term. He got stuck as both parties rebuffed him, and therefore he adopted, quite rationally in my view, an attitude of benign neglect. It was barely noticed.

The shift in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from necessity to hobby for the U.S. is driven by a number of structural changes, beginning with the end of the Cold War. There was a time when it was truly feared that an Arab-Israeli war could trigger a wider superpower conflict. During the October 1973 war, President Richard Nixon raised America's military readiness to Defcon 3 to signal the Soviets to stay away. That is not likely to happen today, given the muted superpower conflict over the Middle East.

Moreover, the discovery of massive amounts of oil and gas in the U.S., Canada and Mexico is making North America the new Saudi Arabia. So who needs the old one?

Of course, oil and gas are global commodities, and any disruption of flows from the Middle East would drive up prices. But though America still imports some oil from the Middle East, we will never again be threatened with gas lines by another Arab oil embargo sparked by anger over Palestine. For China and India, that is another matter. For them, the Middle East has gone from a hobby to a necessity. They are both hugely dependent on Middle East oil and gas. If anyone should be advancing Arab-Israeli (and Sunni-Shiite) peace diplomacy today, it is the foreign ministers of India and China.

Writing in Foreign Policy magazine last week, Robin M. Mills, the head of consulting at Manaar Energy, noted that "according to preliminary figures reported this week, China has overtaken the United States as the world's largest net oil importer." Mills described this as a "shift as momentous as the U.S. eclipse of Britain's Royal Navy or the American economy's surpassing of the British economy in the late 19th century. ... The United States is set to become the world's biggest oil producer by 2017."

At the same time, while the unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict emotionally resonates across the Arab-Muslim world, and solving it is necessary for regional stability, it is clearly not sufficient. The most destabilizing conflict in the region is the civil war between Shiites and Sunnis that is rocking Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain and Yemen. While it would be a good thing to erect a Palestinian state at peace with Israel, the issue today is: Will there be anymore a Syrian state, a Libyan state and an Egyptian state?

Finally, while America's need to forge Israeli-Palestinian peace

has never been lower, the obstacles have never been higher: Israel has now implanted 300,000 settlers in the West Bank, and the Hamas rocket attacks on Israel from Gaza have seriously eroded the appetite of the Israeli silent majority to withdraw from the West Bank, since one puny rocket alone from there could close Israel's international airport in Lod.

For all these reasons, Obama could be the first sitting U.S. president to visit Israel as a tourist.

Good news for Israel, right? Wrong. While there may be fewer reasons for the U.S. to take risks to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, there is still a powerful reason for Israel to do so. The status quo today may be tolerable for Israel, but it is not healthy. And more status quo means continued Israeli settlements in, and tacit annexation of, the West Bank.

That's why I think the most important thing Obama could do on his trip is to publicly and privately ask every Israeli official he meets these questions:

"Please tell me how your relentless settlement drive in the West Bank does not end up with Israel embedded there — forever ruling over 2.5 million Palestinians with a colonial-like administration that can only undermine Israel as a Jewish democracy and delegitimize Israel in the world community? I understand why Palestinian dysfunction and the Arab awakening make you wary, but still. Shouldn't you be constantly testing and testing whether there is a Palestinian partner for a secure peace? After all, you have a huge interest in trying to midwife a decent West Bank Palestinian state that is modern, multireligious and pro-Western — a totally different model from the Muslim Brotherhood variants around you. Everyone is focused on me and what will I do. But, as a friend, I just want to know one thing: What is your long-term strategy? Do you even have one?" □



# With no choice, Big East commissioner looks ahead

**GREG BISHOP**

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**NEW YORK**—The well-wishers came in waves, old friends and new colleagues, television bigwigs and college presidents, all in search of Mike Aresco, commissioner of the Big East Conference. (Or what's left of it. Before more teams are added and subtracted. Before they call it something else.) As the valedictory conference basketball tourna-

Murrow: Difficulty is the excuse history never accepts. Later, when Aresco interviewed with ESPN, an acquaintance, a federal judge, told him that he was out of his mind, that a 24-hour sports concept would never work. Aresco took the job. That turned out all right.

So there Aresco sat Wednesday morning, after a breakfast of eggs, bacon and wheat toast; after an-

decided to head to the Big Ten. Louisville planned its jump to the ACC.

As Aresco acclimated to a job as difficult as any post in sports, the landscape shifted, continually, underneath his feet. The parameters changed daily. Every game he attended, reporters shoved microphones in his face. His wife had to remind him to eat. Critics tagged his league Conference USA 2.0 and Confer-

He was asked if that had aged him. He looked around for his tournament credential before he answered. He could not find it. "I think I still look the same," he joked, adding: "I've termed our conference a conference of opportunity. I consider us a challenger brand. I still feel that way." Aresco traveled for most of the first few months in the job. He went to football games, visited campus-

orange. The Providence mascot, with its creepy non-smile facial expression, shook Aresco's hand. Cincinnati fans debated their NCAA tournament prospects as the Bearcats' lead over Providence again ballooned. An usher, his local accent thick, summarily dispatched an interloper from the seats.

Moments like these made the Big East tournament, quintessential New York moments, melting-pot moments, a Friar and an Orange and a Bearcat walk into the Garden moments. Aresco made his way across the court, to the ESPN table, where, at 12:50 p.m., he exchanged pleasantries with broadcaster Mike Patrick. Patrick referenced all the recent movement, the teams on their way out, those on their way in.

"The dust will start settling soon," Aresco said.

Or so he hoped. There was optimism over the ESPN contract, which still needs to be approved by the conference's board, which is composed of the presidents of the member colleges. Still, at about \$130 million over seven years, the deal is far smaller than one the conference turned down two years ago.

Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Louisville and Notre Dame will leave. So will Rutgers. So will the so-called Catholic 7 — St. John's, Seton Hall, Marquette, DePaul, Georgetown, Villanova and Providence — to form the new Big East, a basketball conference, like the original.

Aresco said his conference, soon to be unnamed and named again, will sign a second television deal "fairly soon." He did not elaborate about the deal; negotiations are continuing. Aresco sees all of this as an opportunity, of course.

"It gives us a fresh start," he said. "It gives this group a chance to make its own history. It's essentially almost a new conference."

At 1:17 p.m., Aresco pulled out his iPhone and responded to email, pecking answers with the index finger on his right hand. □



**Big East Commissioner Mike Aresco speaks with a Madison Square Garden executive during the Big East Men's Basketball Championship at Madison Square Garden in New York, March 13, 2013. Aresco has faced numerous difficulties since taking the job as the conference shifts and teams leave or join.**

(Ben Solomon/The New York Times)

ment continued Wednesday in all its sentimental glory, Aresco arrived at Madison Square Garden at 11:15 a.m. He wore a gray pinstripe suit, a red tie and, as his preferred expression, a smile. Where others mistook his rounds for a funeral procession, for a portrait of the end, Aresco peddled hope and sold opportunity and projected confidence. Aresco, by both nature and necessity, is perhaps the most optimistic man in sports.

At Tufts, in graduate school, he fixated on a plaque in the library, the one with a quotation from Edward R.

other meeting with a television executive; inside Dressing Room 1, the conference headquarters for the tournament. The perpetual spin cycle of conference realignment continued unabated. Aresco looked forward to a temporary break. "You ready to watch some basketball?" he asked. "That will be a relief."

Aresco became the Big East commissioner in August, and as one month bled into two, then six, it felt, he said, "like drinking from a fire hose." Notre Dame announced it would depart for the Atlantic Coast Conference. Rutgers

ence We'll Take Anyone. If those departures early in his tenure seemed difficult, they represent what Aresco called "the halcyon days" in hindsight. That was before Boise State and San Diego State bolted having never actually arrived, before seven Catholic universities decided to split and form a basketball conference and pay for the old name, before Aresco signed a television deal with ESPN for the Conference Formerly Known as the Big East.

The past seven months, Aresco said, "felt like seven years."

es, shook a few hundred hands. He tried to reverse the narrative that had taken hold, of a doomed conference, the entity left out of realignment. He promised the Big East would "reinvent itself again."

At 12:24 p.m. Wednesday, Aresco bumped into Joel Fisher, an executive vice president at the Garden.

"I've been meaning to call you," Fisher said.

The men sat in the front row and talked basketball. That this tournament would mark the conference's last here in its current form went unsaid. A Syracuse fan walked by, his beard dyed